

Qadhafi pardons French family

PARIS (A.P.) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has agreed to free a French woman and her two sons who were sentenced to life imprisonment last month on charges of spying for the United States and Israel, French officials said Wednesday. The sentences handed down Feb. 21 by a Tripoli court had shocked French authorities, who contended the family was too simple-minded to take a bus trip alone and that international espionage was beyond their mental capabilities. The clemency for Denise Dupont, 58, and her sons Alain, 25, and Jean-Claude, 21, was announced jointly by two French mayors who had worked for the Dupont's release since their arrest in Libya two years ago.

Jordan Times

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Bahraini diplomats 'leave Beirut'

BEIRUT, Lebanon (A.P.) — Two Bahraini diplomats reportedly left Beirut hurriedly as the Lebanese government expressed concern Wednesday over an exodus of foreign missions from this war-torn country that began last week with the departures of Kuwait's ambassador. The Lebanese French-language newspaper *l'Orient le Jour* said Bahrain's charge d'affaires Mahmoud Abdullah Bahloul and second secretary Abdul Rahman Taki left Beirut with their families without informing the Lebanese Foreign Ministry of their departure plans.

Qaboos urges West to encourage friends

LONDON (R) — The Sultan of Oman Wednesday called for a concerted and effective Western policy on the Middle East which would encourage its friends there. Sultan Qaboos Ibn Sa'id such a policy could be a firm deterrent to those who sought to promote Middle East instability. He told a banquet at London's Guildhall on the second day of a four-day state visit to Britain that the problem of the Palestinians had to be solved if Soviet interference in the Arab World was to be halted.

Polls rate Begin most popular

TEL AVIV (A.P.) — Forty-one percent of Israelis rate Menachem Begin as the man most suited to serve as prime minister, an opinion poll showed Wednesday. Although his rating has dropped four percent since November, Mr. Begin remains well ahead of his nearest rival, Shimon Peres, who got an 18.1 percent rating, according to the poll by the Modim Ezerai Institute of Research.

World asked to help UNRWA

NEW YORK (Agencies) — The United Nations General Assembly has asked member governments to help the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA), which will have an estimated deficit of \$50 million in 1982. About \$20 million in contributions were needed before the end of April to avoid closing 643 schools for 340,000 Palestinian children in the Middle East, a UNRWA representative, Peter Kolby of Norway, told the General Assembly. The schools are staffed by 10,000 teachers, Mr. Kolby said. Quoting figures supplied by UNRWA General Commissioner Olof Rydbeck, he said the body's deficit had been reduced in 1982 from \$80 million to \$50 million.

New grand sheikh of Al Azhar named

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak issued a decree on Wednesday appointing the minister of awqaf (Muslim religious endowments), Sheikh Jaduhak Ali Jaduhak, as grand sheikh of Al Azhar Mosque, the world's most influential seat of Islamic teachings, the Middle East News Agency said. Sheikh Jaduhak succeeds Sheikh Abdul Rahman Beisar who died earlier this month.

U.S. team seeks U.K. credit support

LONDON (R) — The Reagan administration sought British support Wednesday in tightening credit for Moscow after a reported cool response from West Germany and France. Undersecretary of State James Buckley urged Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington and other British officials to join in a concerted effort to deny the Soviet Union and its allies easy terms for hard currency loans, diplomatic sources said. They said Britain was sympathetic during daylong talks at the Foreign Office but felt it would be difficult to rally support from all major NATO governments for moves that could lead to a slowdown in East-West trade.

Golan curfew lifted, but protests continue

TEL AVIV (A.P.) — The Israeli army on Wednesday lifted a curfew imposed on the Golan Heights' largest town following demonstrations there, the military said. But anti-Israeli protests in the occupied Arab areas continued.

The curfew was placed Tuesday on Majdel Shams, in the northern Golan Heights, following "repeated disruptions of public order," the command said. Townspeople tried to overturn a military vehicle, and two residents were detained, a spokesman said.

The 15,000 Arabs of the Golan have been on strike for five weeks in protest against Israel's annexation of the territory. Israel has retaliated for the strike by closing the area's four main

villages to outside visitors, including journalists. Deputy Prime Minister Simcha Ehrlich said after visiting the towns that "if the residents are suffering, they are doing so voluntarily," since Israel was willing to lift its restrictions as soon as the strike ended.

Jerusalem protests

In Arab Jerusalem, schoolgirls set up a roadblock of burning tires in an anti-Israel demonstration. Israel Radio reported. It said one girl was detained. Palestinian youths were reported to have stoned passing cars in Shu'fat, an Arab suburb of Jerusalem. No details were available.

Bulgaria, Kuwait oppose intervention in Gulf

KUWAIT (A.P.) — Kuwait and Bulgaria declared Wednesday that security of the Gulf region was "the responsibility of the region's peoples without any foreign intervention."

The declaration came in a joint communiqué on a three-day visit by Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov, aimed at strengthening cooperation between the two countries.

The statement said Kuwait and Bulgaria signed five agreements for cooperation in the tourist,

trade, industrial, economic and cultural fields. It called for "stepped up cooperation" in food industries, communications, finance, trade and infrastructural projects.

The communiqué declared support for inclusion of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in any efforts for an Arab-Israeli settlement, accused Israel of aggression in Lebanon and of territorial expansionism, and expressed hopes for a peaceful settlement to the 17-month-old Gulf war between Iraq and Iran.

Juridical discord impedes Saudi-Kuwait security pact

KUWAIT (A.P.) — The conclusion of joint internal security pact between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait has been marred by a disagreement over extradition of criminals between the two countries, the interior minister of Kuwait was quoted Wednesday as disclosing.

Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Sabah told local reporters that Kuwait has proposed a joint committee to discuss the issue and explore ways of smoothing it over. The idea of bilateral security pacts surfaced in the Gulf region in the wake of an Iranian-backed coup bid in Bahrain last Dec-

ember. 73 persons of various Gulf nationalities are now on trial in Bahrain in connection with that plot.

Bahrain was the first to sign a bilateral security pact with Saudi Arabia. Two months later the United Arab Emirates and Qatar concluded similar pacts with the Saudis, and Oman was said to have entered into "a more comprehensive" internal security arrangement with the kingdom — the leading member of the ten-month-old Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

Kuwait was the only nation in the six-member GCC to refrain from following suit.

Bonn cool to Soviet freeze on missiles

BONN (Agencies) — West Germany said Wednesday the Soviet freeze in deploying SS-20 missiles on Soviet European territory aimed to undermine preparations for U.S. missile installation in Western Europe.

A government statement issued after cabinet discussion of Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's announcement of the freeze Tuesday said Moscow's moratorium "is dependent on the West refraining from preparations to deploy American Pershing II and cruise missiles."

NATO is to deploy 108 Pershing II and 464 cruise missiles from late 1983 unless Moscow by then reduces or scraps its arsenal of SS-20 missiles threatening Western Europe.

Government spokesman Kurt Becker refused to call the latest Soviet announcement a step forward, noting it merely repeated "in content" previous Soviet suggestions of a moratorium on mis-

Soviet media hail move

But the Soviet media Wednesday hailed Mr. Brezhnev's move.

Large-scale coverage by the state-controlled press of Tuesday's move appeared to herald an East bloc campaign to promote the decision as a new peace initiative by Moscow.

But NATO military analysts said it contained no new elements and brought East and West positions on medium-range nuclear missiles no closer together. Moscow has indicated concern that pacifist protest in Western Europe against the stationing of the U.S. rockets has slackened in the wake of the military crackdown in Poland.

U.S. dismisses offer

President Reagan has dismissed

China's elderly leaders urged to stay on

PEKING (R) — China's leading ideological journal Wednesday called on the country's elderly leaders to retain their posts despite the current campaign to replace older officials with new blood.

Diplomatic sources said the commentary in the fortnightly Red Flag clearly indicated that the powerful but ageing vice-chairman Deng Xiaoping, who is master-minding a campaign to trim bureaucracy, is not expected to step down himself. The anti-bureaucratic campaign is aimed at replacing elderly and often poorly trained administrators with younger technocrats whose skills are more suited to present-day China.

Mr. Deng, 77, has strongly endorsed the campaign, calling it a "revolution," but despite a five-week disappearance from view in January and February he has not given any indication that he plans to step down.

Mr. Deng has been the driving force behind the economic and political relaxation that has taken place since the death of Chairman Mao Tse-tung in 1976 and apparently feels that if he were to resign all his work could be undone.

Red Flag urged most older officials to retire gracefully to give younger people a chance.

But it added: "We need a few dozen old comrades with a high reputation throughout the world, who are far-sighted, take a broad view and are still of good spirits to remain in pivotal leading positions and maintain a firm hold."

Apart from Mr. Deng, many of China's leaders are in their 70s and 80s. None has retired so far. However, it was announced earlier this month that the number of vice-premiers would shortly be reduced from 13 to two.

Although vice-premier Wan Lijiao Reuters last month that Mr. Deng had "withdrew to the second line" — a phrase frequently used in connection with the current anti-bureaucratic campaign — this remark has not been quoted in the official press, apparently to avoid giving the impression that the vice-chairman has retired from political life.

Most diplomats in Peking believe Mr. Deng is as active as ever and that he has no intention of retiring at least until 1985, when he has said he will step down.

King opens potash project today

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein will open Thursday the Arab Potash Company (APC) refinery project at Ghor Al Safi, near the southern tip of the Dead Sea.

King Hussein will deliver a major address at the inauguration ceremony, which will be attended by senior government officials, representatives of Arab and international finance institutions which are contributing to the project and a number of international personalities. The project when fully operational is expected to earn the country \$200 million in public revenue.

International reports including those of the World Bank indicate that the project is regarded, as one

of the most important among those implemented in the Third World, in terms of cost, productivity and economic feasibility.

The project is designed to exploit natural resources existing in the Dead Sea, and potash in addition to the complementary projects for the production of table salt, magnesium, bromine salt and its products as well as potassium sulphate.

The project is expected to create jobs for thousands of Jordanian workers besides ones for the highly skilled technicians.

Prince Michael of Kent, cousin of Queen Elizabeth II, arrived here Wednesday evening to attend Thursday's inauguration. Prince Michael was met at the airport by

Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and British Ambassador to Jordan Alan Urwick.

A personal representative of Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, Hans Seidel, also arrived Wednesday to take part in Thursday's inauguration ceremony.

Dr. Seidel, who is also Austrian minister of state, will be staying for four days. He is carrying a message from Chancellor Kreisky to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Austria's Ambassador to Jordan Arnold Moehlis told the Jordan Times on Wednesday night.

Austria had granted Jordan JD 12.5 million to help finance the potash project, part of which is being implemented by Austrian firms.

Cairo to woo Arabs

PARIS (R) — Egypt will attempt to involve other Arab countries in its drive for peace in the Middle East after Israeli forces withdrew from Sinai by April 25, according to Egyptian deputy foreign minister, Butros Ghali.

In an interview Wednesday in the French Socialist daily, *Le Matin*, Dr. Ghali said that in future Egypt would have "normal but certainly not special relations with Israel."

He said he was certain Israel would respect the April 25 withdrawal deadline but he did not know whether Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak would visit Israel.

The withdrawal will indicate to other Arab countries what negotiations can achieve when military confrontation has failed, Dr. Ghali said.

U.S. troops in Sinai

SHARM AL SHEIKH, Israeli-occupied Sinai (A.P.) — An American paratroop battalion flew into the Sinai Peninsula Wednesday and marched across the desert to take up peacekeeping duties between Israel and Egypt.

The Americans are part of the 11-nation peacekeeping force that will patrol eastern Sinai and monitor observance of demilitarisation provisions of the Egypt-Israel peace treaty.

Egypt, Israel fail to settle border problems

TEL AVIV (R) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali returned home Wednesday without settling disputes with Israel over the future border between the two countries in Sinai.

The frontier will come into existence when Israel hands back the last part of Sinai to Egypt next month but agreement has not been reached on a 600-metre coastal strip on the Gulf of Aqaba. Mr. Ali and Israeli Defence Minister Ariel Sharon told a joint news conference that a new effort to solve the problem would be made in Cairo later this month.

Both firmly stated they were not worried, but Mr. Sharon appeared to side-step a question asking whether there was any possibility that border demarcation disputes could delay Israel's evacuation, scheduled to be completed by

April 26 under the Camp David treaty.

"I am sure at our next meeting we shall find a solution to our remaining problems," he replied.

Mr. Ali said his two days of talks had generally been very constructive. He dismissed fears voiced by some Israelis that Egypt's commitment to a peace dialogue with Israel would die away after it regains Sinai.

Mr. Ali said arguments over a proposed visit to Israel by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak had developed because of a misunderstanding.

The Egyptian foreign minister discussed the row with Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin on Tuesday. He told reporters the visit would take place but said the dates and programme had not been fixed.

Arafat sure Egypt will soon return to Arab fold

NEW YORK (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman Yasser Arafat said in a television interview on Tuesday night he was sure Egypt would return to the Arab fold once it had regained Sinai from Israel next month.

He added that he considered the U.S.-sponsored Camp David peace process between Israel and Egypt dead.

Asked in the interview, shown in the United States, whether Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak would be a friend of the Palestinians after the Israeli withdrawal, Mr. Arafat replied: "All the Egyptian people are very near to the Palestinian people."

Pressed again specifically on Mr. Mubarak, he said: "Yes, no doubt of it."

Asked whether Egypt might even become an adversary of Israel, the PLO chairman replied: "This year is a very important year

and the whole political map (of the Middle East) will be drawn from the beginning."

In response to another question, Mr. Arafat said he did not know whether Mr. Mubarak would change his attitude towards Israel after the handover of Sinai.

However, Mr. Arafat said: "I am sure of one thing, that the Egyptian masses, the Egyptian people, the Egyptian army will make the change. Don't forget what happened to (assassinated President Anwar) Sadat is not from a small group, it is the army."

Asked whether a new initiative in the Middle East, such as the PLO's recognition of Israel, was not needed, he said: "Even if it is from the victims?"

"First we are the victims and we are insistent not to give this card to our enemies... I don't want to be a traitor like Sadat. If I lose the confidence of my people, I'll be less."

Israelis 'deeply involved' in El Salvador civil war

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A Salvadoran guerrilla leader said Wednesday that Israel was as deeply involved as the United States in the Central American country's civil war.

The Lebanese newspaper *Al Safir* identified the man as Lt. Col. Martell but published a photograph of him which closely resembled a recent picture of Salvadoran Cayetano Carpio, head of the biggest guerrilla group in El Salvador.

Palestine Liberation Organisation sources said he visited Lebanon for talks with PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

Col. Martell told *Al Safir* that guerrillas destroyed four Israeli aircraft in an attack on San Salvador airport this year and that Israel had sent experts in psychological warfare and espionage to help the U.S.-backed government.

He accused Israel of training Salvadoran forces in anti-guerrilla tactics.

Little is known of relations between the guerrillas in El Salvador and the PLO but Palestinian publications have recently given prominence to the civil war in which 30,000 people have died in two years.

Palestinian sources said Col.

Martell met Mr. Arafat's chief military aide, Khalil Al Wazir, as well as the PLO chief. They did not disclose the purpose of the visit.

Al Safir quoted Col. Martell as saying that his forces were "as ready for dialogue as for battle" with President Jose Napoleon Duarte's government.

He said the guerrillas' efforts to disrupt elections on March 28 were intended to force President Reagan with two choices — "either to intervene directly as happened in Vietnam or to start a dialogue with the (guerrilla) front as a mediator between us and the government."

In San Salvador, a warning from leftist guerrillas of a general uprising in El Salvador next week was followed by attacks in three suburbs in and around the capital on Tuesday night.

It was the second successive day of guerrilla activity close to San Salvador and was seen by the U.S.-backed authorities as part of a campaign to disrupt constituent assembly elections set for March 28.

A guerrilla radio broadcast told people to stock up on food and medicines and home-made Molotov cocktails to help guerrilla forces "when the decisive moment comes."

Mubarak urged to re-schedule visit

RIYADH (A.P.) — The administration of U.S. President Ronald Reagan has proposed that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's visit to Israel be timed to coincide with the April 25 Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, the newspaper *Al Riyadh* reported in its edition appearing Thursday. The paper attributed this to an unidentified official on the U.S. National Security Council, adding that the proposal has been communicated to Egypt and Israel. The paper's report came as Prince Abdullah, Saudi Arabia's second deputy prime minister, conferred with U.S. Ambassador Richard Murphy to discuss "issues of mutual interest and bilateral relations." The leading Saudi daily also quoted unidentified Arab diplomatic sources in Washington and New York as saying that the Reagan administration was trying to help Mr. Mubarak avoid Arab and Islamic resentment of his projected visit to Israel.

Saddam makes new proposals on ending Gulf war

MANAMA, Bahrain (Agencies) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is formally submitting new proposals to Islamic mediators on ending Iraq's 17-month-old war with Iran.

The Bahrain-based Gulf News Agency, in a report from Baghdad, said Iraqi Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hamed Alwan left for Guinea Wednesday to deliver President Saddam's written proposals to Guinean President Ahmad Sekou Toure.

Mr. Sekou Toure is head of a nine-member Islamic good offices mission which launched a new bid from Saudi Arabia earlier this month, with visits to both Iran and Iraq, in an effort to mediate a settlement. No immediate tangible progress had been reported.

Mr. Alwan described the new Iraqi proposals as "important" and said that, provided Iran responds, "it will have a far-reaching effect in fixing responsibility for the current conflict."

He would not elaborate. Iran has been accusing Iraq of responsibility for eruption of the war in September 1980.

It has insisted on withdrawal of Iraqi troops from territories occupied since the war and on reparations as pre-conditions for negotiations. Iraq says until its sovereignty over Shatt Al Arab Waterway is recognised by Tehran, and a pledge by the Iranians not to interfere in Iraq's internal affairs is given, there can be no solution to the conflict.

Turkish premier's talks in Baghdad, President Saddam

met Turkish Prime Minister Bulend Ulusu Wednesday and discussed bilateral relations, the Iraqi News Agency said.

Mr. Ulusu is in Baghdad on a three-day visit at the head of a 24-man delegation.

The Turkish prime minister is also a member of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) committee mediating in the Gulf war. No details of the meeting were given.

POW visits

In the meantime, some 7,000 relatives of Iranian prisoners in Iraq have applied to visit them under an exchange scheme proposed by Tehran, the Iranian mission said in Geneva Wednesday.

A press statement said Iran had told the International Red Cross representative in Tehran it was ready to grant entry permits to families of 200 Iraqis and that Iraq had agreed to the scheme in principle. Relatives would travel to the other country using Kuwait and Turkey as transit checkpoints.

Priority would be given to families of prisoners longest in captivity. Relatives of Iraqi prisoners would be allowed to stay in Iran for seven days, seeing the prisoner for up to four hours.

The International Red Cross Committee said last week it was considering the proposal in detail but such a scheme was unlikely to be implemented in the near future because of its complexity.

Bani-Sadr vows return

VIENNA (R) — Former Iranian President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr was quoted Wednesday as saying he was determined to return to his country to prepare the overthrow of revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

In an interview with the Austrian daily *Arbeiter-Zeitung*,

Mr. Bani-Sadr, who fled to Paris last July, said he thought he could lead Iran to democracy within six months after deposing Ayatollah Khomeini.

He said the economy was in a dire state, with production down by half and four million people unemployed.

Libya attacks U.S. plans

WASHINGTON (R) — The United Nations' plans to carry out fresh naval manoeuvres in the Mediterranean Gulf of Sidra, where American aircraft shot down two Libyan planes during exercises last August, brought a swift response from Libya, which accused the United States of planning an invasion.

The official Libyan news agency JANA said in a commentary telecast to Reuters in London: "In this case Libya must get ready to confront a big state and this means a third world war is imminent, for which the American administration is held responsible."

The Soviet news agency TASS, reporting from Washington on U.S. Navy's Secretary John Lehman's remarks on the exercises, said: "The Reagan administration is planning a new armed provocation against Libya."

Mr. Lehman said on Tuesday the Gulf of Sidra was the only area left in the Mediterranean for missile practice. "We will not be intimidated from our international rights by (Libyan leader Muammar) Qadhafi any more than we were before," he said. (Editorial comment, page 4).

Jordan Television

Channel 6

Will present on Friday March 19 at 8:50 p.m. a special interview with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan about the Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank.

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NATIONAL

APC plant opens today: A job well done

By Steve Ross
Special to the Jordan Times

GHOR AL SAFI — The product of hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of work lies ready and waiting near here for Thursday's inauguration of the Arab Potash Company (APC) project by His Majesty King Hussein. Covering the desolate, sun-drenched landscape of the Lisan, the peninsula on the eastern shore of the Dead

Sea, is a network of pipes and evaporation pans to extract potassium chloride (potash) from the salt lake's mineral-rich waters.

The potash extraction plant is only the first of several processes by which APC plans to exploit the sea's wealth. It utilizes solar energy in an ingenious arrangement whereby brine is collected at the northern end of the Lisan and piped through a series of pans of increasing concentration. The resulting superconcentrated li-

quor is then collected and sent to a refinery at the southern end of the complex.

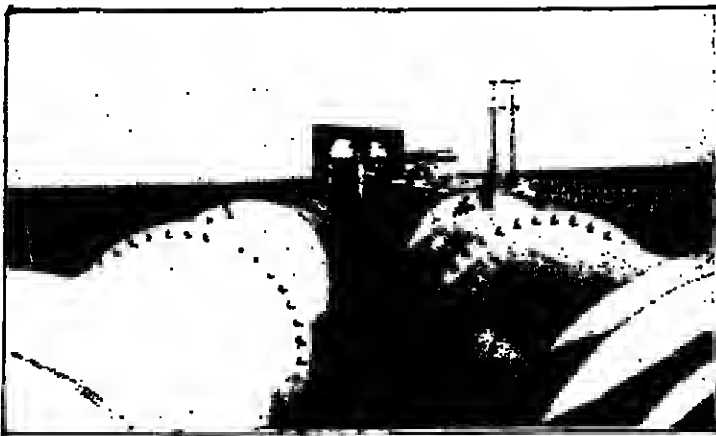
The plant is to begin commercial production in September with an output of 240,000 tonnes in the first year. This will grow to 1.2 million tonnes a year by 1986. Thursday's ceremony will mark the culmination of a seven-year effort that has brought to bear construction expertise from around globe, and has given new life to the southern Ghor area. Once a sparsely inhabited wasteland, this region, 400 metres below sea level, now bustles with activity.

All the Arab and international parties involved are justifiably proud of two things that make the APC project a shining example for regional efforts: its completion schedule and budgeting record. The project has been completed well within the time frame set for it, and at a price only marginally higher than that first estimated. The greater cost—\$465.8 million instead of the estimated \$420 million—is accounted for by a change made in the refinery's design, so that it could produce granular potash to meet world demand.

APC was first set up in 1956 with a capital of JD 4.5 million, held by several Arab states—making it the first pan-Arab joint venture in contemporary history. The company had a concession from Jordan to exploit the Dead Sea's mineral content; but implementation of the project was initially blocked by various political and administrative difficulties. The company was revived in 1975, on a much larger scale.

Highly viable

Under new administration, APC hired an American firm, Jacobs Engineering, to carry out a feasibility study. The \$10 million



Pipes leading to brine intake at the Lisan's northern end

study—financed by Jordan, the World Bank and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)—included the construction of a model pilot plant, with solar evaporation pans and dikes, on which the final design of the project was based. APC attributes the success of the project partly to this early experimentation to eliminate any bugs that could arise in the full-scale process.

The feasibility study passed the idea of the potash project with flying colours. It was found to be highly viable technically, economically, financially and commercially. On the basis of its cost estimate of \$420 million, APC's capital was raised to JD 63 million, and international financing was sought in order to pay for the project on the basis of 45 per cent equity financing and 55 per cent loans.

The company is controlled by the Jordanian government, with a 51 per cent share of its capital. The Arab Mining Company holds 25 per cent, and smaller shares are held by the Islamic Development Bank, the Iraqi government, Libya, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the Jordanian Post Office Savings Fund and founding shareholders.

The largest loan for the project came from the Austrian government, which lent \$40 million. USAID lent \$38 million, the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development \$36.3 million and the World Bank \$35 million. More multimillion-dollar loans came from the British government, the Iraq Fund for External Development, the Libyan Arab Foreign Bank and the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Fund. Total borrowing came to \$203 million.

In addition to the use of the pilot plant, other factors to which APC officials point, in explaining the project's promptitude, include the use of the prequalification principle in choosing contractors for each of the jobs involved, a competitive tendering process and APC's frankness in dealing with bidders. Also, they say, work priorities were planned shrewdly well in advance, guaranteeing smooth project completion.

Million-dollar contracts

Construction of the pilot plant, of course, was the first tender awarded. The British firms Brown and Root and George Wimpey International built the plant between

August 1976 and the end of 1977. Jacobs International of the U.S. won the tender for design and construction supervision of the overall project in November 1977; Jacobs' contract was worth JD 7 million. The British firm Sir Alexander Gibb subcontracted to Jacobs for all matters relating to pans, dikes, the brine intake and water systems.

The construction of a residential township at the job site is one of the contracts whose early implementation is seen as being one of the facilitating factors in the whole project. The 350-home township, complete with sports and recreational centre, school and shopping centre, is now being used by foreign firms' personnel. But it will gradually be taken over by Jordanian residents when Jordan takes control of the potash plant. The township was built by Shin Seung of South Korea under a JD 8 million contract.

The U.K.'s Wimpey built the solar evaporation pans, and dikes to contain them, under a JD 36.4 million contract. Sixty-five kilometres of dikes were built, to enclose the eventual 110 square kilometres of evaporation area. By the end of construction, Wimpey had moved 11 million cubic metres of earth.

A tender worth JD 3.6 million was awarded to Brown Boveri and CIE of West Germany for the construction of a 17-megawatt power plant at the site. The APC plant has, however, now been connected to the Jordan Electricity Authority's national distribution network.

The harvesters that will collect the concentrated mineral solution from the final evaporation pans were designed especially for APC, and are unique in the world. Three have been built, and were bought from the American firm Rahco Disc for \$11.55 million. The car-

nallite solution will reach the refinery from the harvesters through floating pipelines.

The chemical complex to take carnallite solution from the evaporation pans, process it and produce granular potash was built by Voest Alpine of Austria under a \$93.5 million contract. Ordering of the refinery's equipment was another point at which APC's shrewdness displayed itself.

The company ordered the equipment directly from suppliers, enabling it to get the materials needed as quickly and cheaply as possible.

Jacobs International will be running the project until June 1986 under a contract worth JD 8.35 million. The contract includes the recruitment and training of 750 Jordanians, who will take over after Jacobs.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

- Olive-wood carvings and flower arrangements by Ibrahim Arar, at the San Rock Hotel.
- Twenty-five Years of French Rock, at the French Cultural Centre.
- A Deck of Cards, paintings on the theme of playing cards by contemporary British artists, at the British Council.
- An Exhibition of Scandinavian Crafts and Design, at the Alia Art Gallery.
- An Exhibition of Originals: Paintings by world famous painters, opening at the Amman Marriott Hotel on Friday at 11 a.m.

Films

- Retrato de Familia, at the Spanish Cultural Centre at 4:30 p.m. No children allowed. (Thursday only)
- Le Diable Dans le Boite, colour film subtitled in Arabic, on Friday 7:30 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.
- White Beam and Black Ear (Part I), on Thursday, 6 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre.

Lecture

- The Second Medical Day — The Child Day — organised by the General Practitioners' Society. Starts on Friday 9:30 a.m. at the Professional Associations Complex. Lunch at the invitation of Dar Al Dawa' Co.

Scandinavian crafts

- Demonstrations, films, lecture and a seminar, at the Hays Arts Centre.

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'Cultural interaction generates the mutual understanding we seek'

EDITOR'S NOTE: Following is the full text of remarks by Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday at Georgetown University in Washington D.C., which she read before delivering an address from His Majesty King Hussein.

I AM honoured to be here today and deeply appreciate your invitation. Among its many distinctions, Georgetown University has been a pioneer in international studies. May I salute the university and its leaders for the impressive role they have played. The establishment of the School of Foreign Service, the Centre for Strategic and International Studies and the Centre for Contemporary Arab Studies are notable landmarks in building bridges of understanding among the peoples of the world.

Jordan is proud of the relationship that has been established with Georgetown, and is privileged to participate with you in developing the ties of friendship between the United States and the Arab World. The regular exchange seminars of participants from Georgetown and the Jordanian World Affairs Council, which His Majesty has chaired and which I have attended, is a wonderful vehicle for binding these ties.

The natural bonds we share are greater than one might realise. Our land is the birthplace of the three great monotheistic religions — Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. We have a common spiritual heritage. Islam, the newest of the three faiths, recognises and respects the teachings of both Judaism and Christianity. We recognise the same God, the same moral values, the equality of people under God and their eternal destiny. The Arabs were the cultural and scientific link between the Greek and Christian civilisations. Arabs and Jews lived for centuries in our lands in total peace and harmony, as fellow Semites, which makes recent attempts to brand Arabs as anti-Semitic both uninformed and

shameful.

One reason for my visit to the U.S., at this time, was to help inaugurate, in Houston, an American sponsored programme of cultural activities marking the 14th century of the *hijra* and of Islam. The purpose is to broaden the spiritual and cultural understanding between our peoples. It is a noble and worthy effort, for which the sponsors should be congratulated.

Such activities provide the cultural interaction which generates the mutual understanding we both seek. The limited, and frequently inaccurate, information disseminated about Arab history, culture, society and values has produced a negative, stereotyped image of Arabs, which must be dispelled if truth and understanding are to prevail.

The media and the institutions of learning have a special role in the search for, and presentation of, those truths. In this regard, the Georgetown Centre for Contemporary Arab Studies deserves particular praise. It is one of the few American institutions devoted to serious academic study of the Arab people.

My husband, King Hussein, is a direct descendant of Prophet Mohammad and of the House of Hashim. His great-grandfather led the Arab Revolt, at the beginning of this century, under the banner of liberty, freedom and the dignity of man — familiar ideals for Americans. My husband shares in that heritage and is committed to those ideals. It is one reason he has constantly sought close relations between the United States and Jordan. It is because of that relationship that I have the pleasure of being with you today.

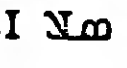
I am not a political person, nor do I assume responsibilities in that field. But I am obviously aware of, affected by and concerned about the political conflict in the Middle East.

There is perhaps no issue in history which has been so exhaustively reported, analysed and debated as the so-called Arab-Israeli problem. I am certain that, as scholars, students and persons of experience and influence, this audience is familiar with most of what has been said and that, indeed, many of you have contributed

to the discussions. It is, perhaps, the perfect irony that so little has been done to solve a problem which has been so intensively examined.

By inescapable geography, Jordan is at the hub of the Eastern Arab World. It borders Israel, Syria, Iraq and Saudi Arabia and by extension, Lebanon and the Gulf States. It is more directly affected by regional security and peace, or lack of them, than any other country. It is for this reason, and to this audience, that His Majesty has requested me to share certain of his views. In the hope that they will help stimulate the action the problems demand.


He asked me to assure you these are the views of a friend. They are also the views of a ruler, who has been more intimately involved, and more directly affected, for a longer period of time, with this problem, than any other world leader. As his wife, this is a source of pride — but it is pride mixed with anxiety and compassion for the many disappointments, frustrations and tragedies which these responsibilities of leadership have imposed.

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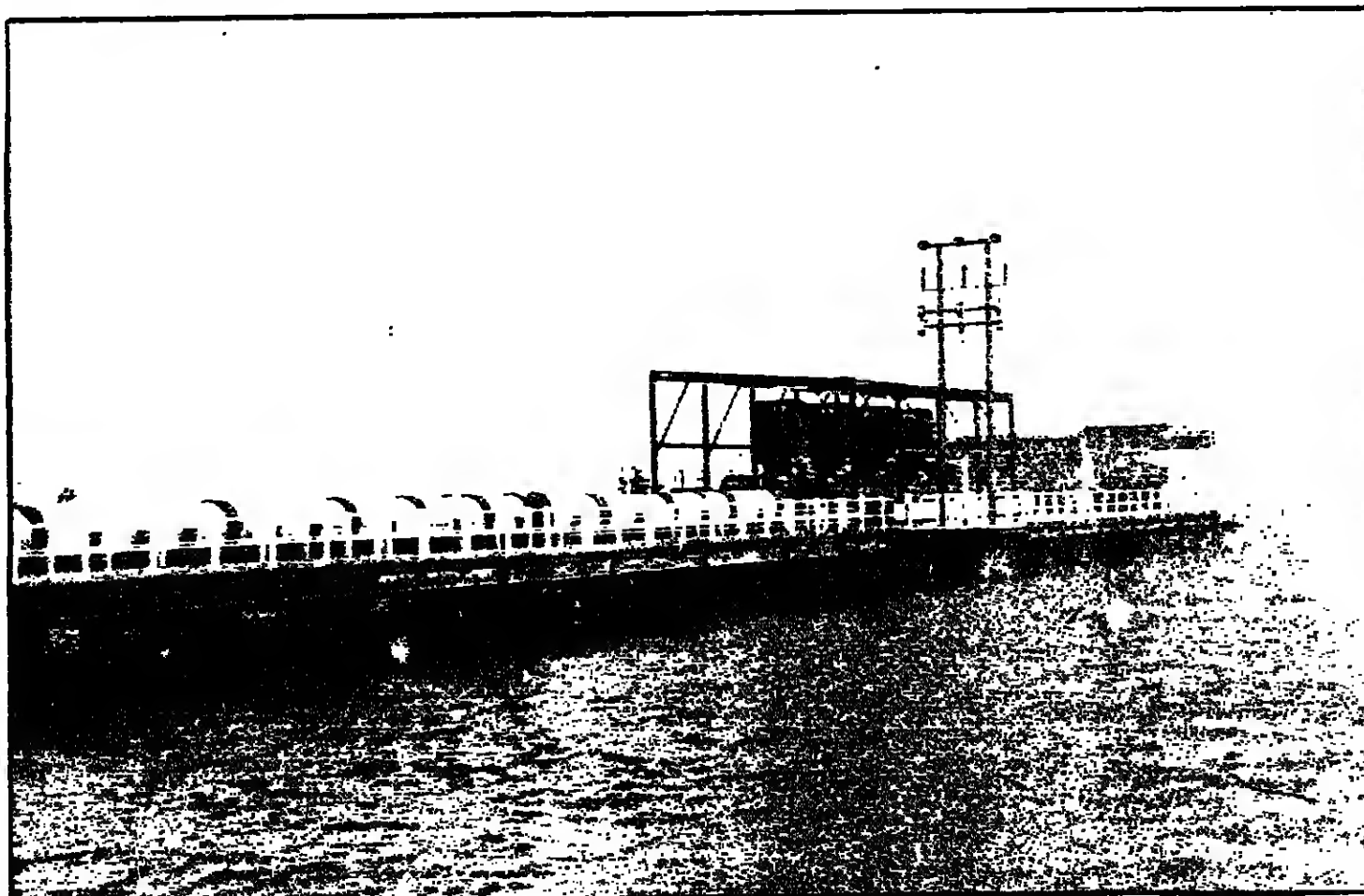
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RED & BLACK

OAPEC and energy search

By Jawad Ahmad

A country which is blessed with mineral wealth seems to turn into a target for international interests. Such attention is not always useful, because greed and carping turn into constant sources of headache for such a country. Ali Baba after finding the treasure, had forty thieves trying to kill him.

OAPEC, the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries, is a club of Arab countries endowed with oil. This organisation was set up in order to be a forum for these countries, where they voice their differences and hope that their decisions would appeal to all. So far, OAPEC has been successful in the little things it

does. Most of its efforts are camouflaged by its bigger sister OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries).

OAPEC has been discussing the current oil glut in the international market for sometime without arriving at a consensus. Saudi Arabia, which was the champion of suppressed oil increases, refuses to decrease its price below \$34/b. Libya on the other hand, which, together with Iran always called for price rises has reduced its price. Regardless of the result, OAPEC is still dismayed.

While everyone tackled the issue of price, the problem of quantity seems to have remained untouched. With a glut in the

world market (presumably in Western countries alone), Saudi Arabia advocates output reduction, while some other members prefer boosting their sales. While two years ago, Saudi Arabia boosted its production, its other competitors were producing at a critical level. Now, things have turned sour for Libya which criticises the USA for not buying Libyan oil, and thus what should have been a trump card in the hands of Libya is now a liability on its score.

Amidst such a messy situation, it might seem ridiculous to invite OAPEC to become more helpful in oil exploration attempts in other Arab countries.

Such an invitation seems diametrically opposite to OAPEC's vested interests. This is not true at all.

The current glut in international markets is not as genuine as it may seem at face value. It is so clouded with misinformation, media blow-ups and political dirty tricks that it is very difficult to discern the truth. It may be worth OAPEC's time to make a sensitivity test of the real magnitude of this glut.

Even if it turned out that there is a real glut, it would not last forever. In the medium and long runs, demand for oil is on the rise. Thus, it would not be harmful if oil is struck in other

non-oil Arab countries.

Moreover, oil promise in other Arab countries is not high. Even if it was found, it would be in quantities barely sufficient to meet domestic demand at the most.

Last, but not least, some OAPEC countries have invested heavily in major oil exploration companies, some of which have been running at a loss. It would be feasible, for investors in such companies to generate work for them in non-oil Arab countries.

OAPEC can thus help Arab non-oil countries in looking for oil and in developing new energy sources. This might prove to be mutually advantageous to both parties.

Superpower or superbully

ALMOST AS soon as Ronald Reagan came to power, he flattered Colonel Muammar Qadhafi, leader of scarcely more than two million Libyans, by dubbing him "world enemy number one."

The rest of the western leaders were reluctant to join this "holy crusade", and according to the Sunday Times of London they "looked embarrassed and remembered other engagements" when invited to tar and feather Col. Qadhafi in their statements.

So President Reagan decided to go it on his own and scarcely a day passed without a new episode being added to the long embarrassing saga.

First there was the shooting down of the two Libyan fighters in the Gulf of Sidra, and Mr. Reagan boasted that now everyone will know that America will keep its word.... He did not explain which word this was.

Then there was the panic over Col. Qadhafi's assassination squads sent over to shoot President Reagan. It transpired, in the clear light of day, that the FBI could not find any evidence of such squads being sent.

Next we had the American trade embargo on Libya which again nobody else would join, largely because Col. Qadhafi, despite his rhetoric, prefers to get technology and weapons from the West and it would not be in the interest of the West to shove him Eastwards.

After all that, we now learn that America is planning further naval manoeuvres in the Gulf of Sidra. We ask ourselves, has the superpower, after it failed to be the policeman of the world, decided to become the bully of the world?... And is it really healthy to reduce international politics from the sublime to the ridiculous?

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

A sense of perspective

AL RA'I: His Majesty King Hussein's open letter to the U.S. people, read by Her Majesty Queen Noor at Georgetown University, comes as part of Jordan's continued and concentrated efforts in the international arena. The letter has re-established Arab presence in the U.S. arena in particular by a direct contact with the American people in order to explain to them the facts relating to the issue and to expose the fallacies resorted to by Israel to justify aggression and its philosophy of equating security with land.

The King preferred for Queen Noor to convey the letter from the lecture of well-esteemed U.S. university to stress the importance of the Palestinian issue which Jordan has been attached to and has experienced and which stands as the key to stability or explosion in the region. The letter gave a clear and frank image of the responsibility shouldered by the United States. It explained the United States inaction in implementing U.N. Resolution 242 and its responsibility in perpetuating the plight of the Palestinian people by providing Israel with military and political support.

The King's letter also gave a clear idea of the Arab stand on the principal requirements for the establishment of peace in the region. It stressed that Jordan could not bargain over one inch of Palestinian territory or one iota of Palestinian rights and that the return of Jerusalem under Arab sovereignty was the key to peace and security. It also stressed that the Palestinian people should be enabled to practice their right to self-determination on their soil.

Detailing these facts to the U.S. public opinion has invoked the fury of the Israeli media because Israel has always depended on deceiving the American people. But Jordan will continue to address the U.S. people in a bid to reach to their conscience which, sooner or later, will be moved by the facts into establishing a courageous and balanced U.S. stand that will not be affected by deception.

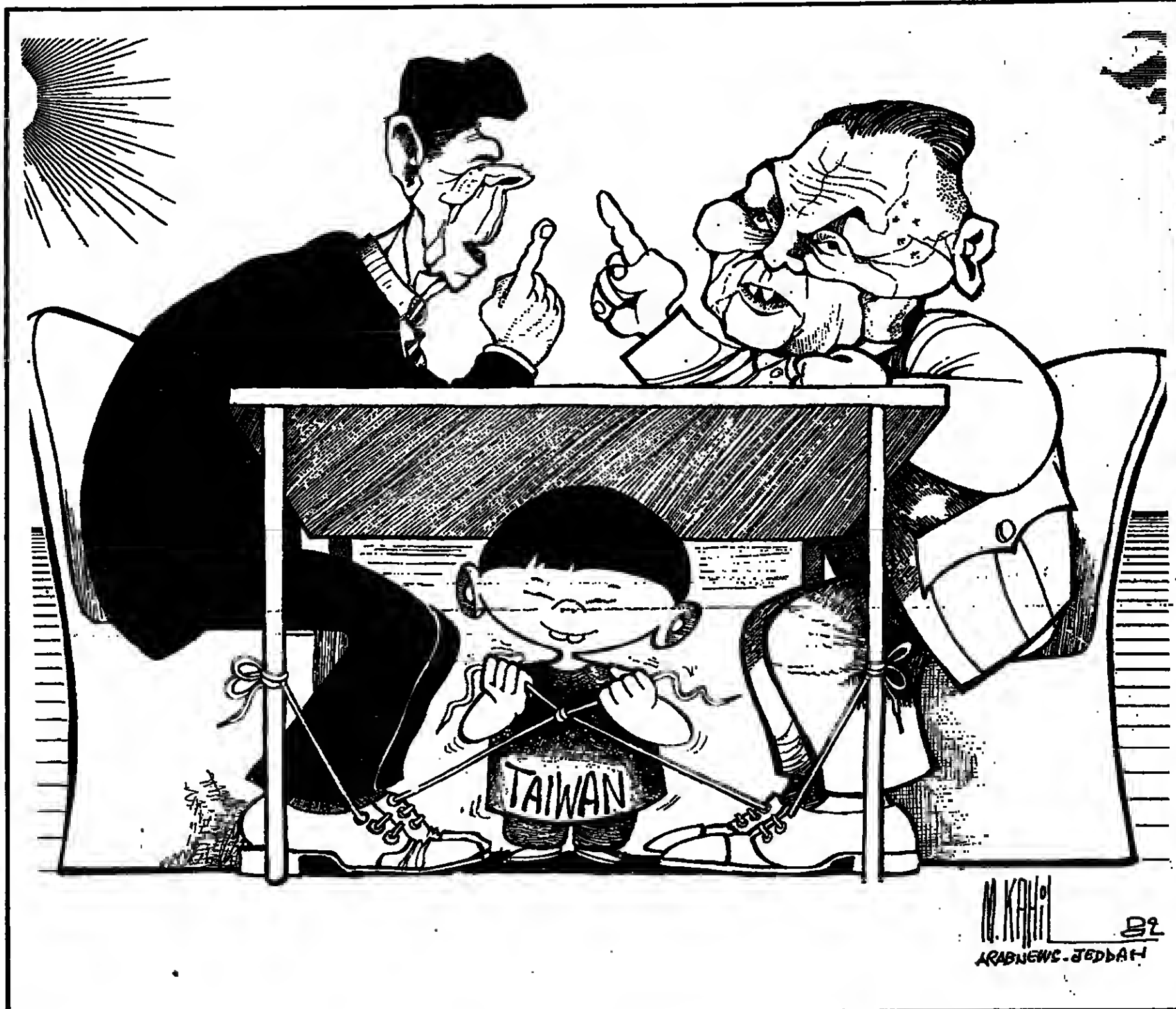
Enough prevarication

AL DUSTOUR: In his open letter to the U.S. people His Majesty King Hussein has reiterated the call for adopting U.N. Resolution 242 as a basis for reaching a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East. The King warned that there would be no peaceful solution unless serious efforts for establishing peace were exerted before the end of 1982.

King Hussein's letter revolved on one central point: reminding the United States of its commitments and pledges towards the establishment of peace in compliance with international resolutions. The United States agreed to the 1947 resolution partitioning Palestine and hastened to recognise the Zionist entity; but it forgot that the same resolution provided for the establishment of a Palestinian state in Palestine. It also disavowed the Palestinian peoples' right to establish such a state.

The successive U.S. administrations continued to ignore that resolution and persisted in supporting Israel with weapons and military hardware encouraging it to proceed with its expansion and aggression against the Palestinian people and the Arab states. King Hussein made sure to remind the United States that it pledged to implement U.N. Resolution 242 within six months of it being issued and that instead of fulfilling its commitments it started bargaining over this resolution which was unanimously approved.

The question the United States should answer is: Is it willing, as a super power that has to work for the establishment of peace, to fulfill its commitments and pledges which were stipulated in the resolutions it had signed? The answer should not be more talk and more promises. The answer should be interpreted into action.



Acute food shortages in Iran

Terry Povey, recently in Tehran, reports on a growing crisis that threatens to erode the foundations of Khomeini's Islamic republic.

After three years of revolution, one and a half years of war and eight months of what amounts to civil war, Iran's fundamentalist leaders are now facing what could be, for them, a major disaster. Food supplies to the poor in the big cities are either vanishing or have become simply too expensive for the masses to afford.

Even foreign diplomats, a wealthy group, are having their rations delivered for them by the Foreign Ministry. Each week the Ministry promises delivery of chickens, butter, eggs and so on because even when willing to pay three or four times the official prices on the black market, diplomats can no longer easily find the basics of life.

For the population at large there is no "friendly" ministry to provide for them and they have begun to resort to the ubiquitous queue. All over the more densely populated parts of Tehran queues of dozens and sometimes hundreds of people stretch around the streets. For every item another queue; men and women spend most of the day and some of the night waiting — in separate lines — for a chance of some eggs, a chicken, or the family's weekly meat allowance. Often the goods run out before the queue ends and that means starting again the next day.

An unemployed civil engineer, with little queueing practice, thought he would beat the crowd to his local butcher by getting there at 5 am one wintry morning this month (March). To his great surprise there were 80 to 100 people already queuing, many of them

holding torches, in the pitch dark. "Those near the front of the queue just laughed at me saying that they'd been there since 2 am," he said.

In Iran today all food other than fresh fruit and vegetables is rationed in two ways. Most important is the family ration card issued by the local mosque, which allows one to buy, for example, fresh meat. Then there are coupons for sugar, petrol, heating oil and the occasional chicken.

Neither the ration card nor the coupon entitles the consumer to the goods — they just limit the amount that can be bought if one is lucky enough to find any.

Price controls exist and are being enforced more rigidly but no longer with much of an eye to cheapness of basic necessities. A flourishing black market also exists, the goods for which come either from the country's domestic producers or are syphoned off from the official distribution system by the revolutionary guards and committees.

According to the Central Bank of Iran, inflation has been running at 20-30 per cent per year over the past two years. The price of foods, they admit, grows faster, at 40-50 per cent per annum.

However, comparisons of current prices with those before the Gulf War started 18 months ago suggest that prices of basic foodstuffs have, on average, doubled. Only bread seems to have stayed the same, although the size of the "loaf" has been cut.

Iran's serious problems began in the late summer of 1981, when

uncontrolled imports, coupled with a partial collapse in oil sales, led to a near disastrous run on the foreign reserves. Outflows averaged \$1.5 billion per month as oil revenues fell to around the \$500 million mark during this period — calculations being based on the official exchange rate of 82 rials to the dollar. Last September, the Central Bank froze all foreign payments for two weeks. Shortly after this it introduced severe controls coupled with a byzantine approvals system.

As a result, much of the regular food purchasing agreements went into abeyance. New Zealand, which supplied over half of Iran's red meat last year, found itself stuck with \$50 million in unpaid bills and several ships on the way to Iran.

Although this debt has since been cleared, relations are still strained and Iran has been looking elsewhere for a partner who will supply meat in exchange for oil.

Meat shortages have been consistently one of the worst problems for the Tehran regime. Officially, the ration per family lies between 0.8 and 1.0 kilo per week. In reality, the average family manages to get about half a kilo every 10 days or so. For this mixture of meat, fat and bones the price is rials 450 (\$5.50 per kilo), exactly double the pre-war price. On the black market limited amounts of meat are available at about \$15 per kilo.

Dairy goods have all but totally disappeared. Eggs are rationed at 30 per family every three weeks and now sell at the pre-war black market price of \$1.34 per dozen. Butter and cheese have not been seen in most shops for two months and milk supplies recently dried

up almost completely.

Rice, a major part of the Iranian diet, has suffered more than almost any other item because of the foreign currency shortage. Until recently, cheap (\$0.85 per kilo) Pakistani or Thai rice was available to the poor. This has now finished and in its place the inferior grades of home grown rice are sold at two and half times this price.

The government continues to appeal to consumers to inform on shopkeepers selling hoarded supplies of the imported cheap rice at the new high prices or adulterating the local product. Rice farmers hit by rising prices have taken to hiding their harvest and raids by revolutionary guards in the villages of the Caspian region looking for rice were commonplace in the late autumn and early winter.

Vegetables and fresh fruit are not effectively subjected to price controls and have on average doubled or trebled in price since the start of the war. Onions were not long ago available at rials 35 per kilo but after a two week period in which it was impossible to buy onions anywhere they reappeared at rials 130 per kilo, up 270 per cent.

Cigarettes have proved to be a major revenue earner for the revolutionary organisations who control their distribution. Winston, once the most popular brand and sold, pre-revolution, at rials 70 per pack, were until recently sold on the streets by a multitude of small holders and little boys at traffic lights for rials 250. As with many other things they disappeared for a while, to re-emerge at a uniform price of rials 450.

The control of the revolutionary guards and committees over much

of the local distribution of food and other basic goods is so tight now that it represents a massive hidden form of taxation. Through it, the regime is able to maintain its local organisation without imposing too great a strain on the central exchequer.

In reality, the population at large are paying through the nose to maintain the revolutionary guards, militia and party machinery of the fundamentalists.

It is certainly not yet the case that starvation stalks the streets of the cities and villages of Iran. It is the case, however, that millions of the population are poised far too close to the narrow borderline that separates undernourishment from real hunger. The inability of the current regime to put its mind to the state of the economy, obsessed as it is by self-defence and a defiant desire to install an ever more obscure form of Islamic rule on the country, suggests that this problem will not be a temporary one.

The political effects of failing to care for the poor on a regime that has boasted of this as its principal concern, taken together with the growing corruption implicit in the control over the black market by the revolutionary organisations, must inevitably sap the willpower of a movement whose sole achievements to date have been on popular support and self-sacrifice. Failure to care for the state of the economy will not of itself bring down the fundamentalist republic, but it could well deprive it of the rock-bed of support that has to date enabled it to surprise all and survive.

— Financial Times news feature

Teach your officers democracy

By Ernesto Mendez Reuter

SARAGOSSA — During the 1936-39 Spanish civil war, 95 per cent of the officers trained at the military academy in Saragossa fought alongside General Francisco Franco to overthrow the republican government.

Today, six years after General Franco's death, the government is trying to educate the cadets to take their places in a democratic society. After an abortive military coup last year, politicians and the press are closely watching attitudes being shaped in the classrooms and parade grounds of the fortress-like academy on the bleak windy plain of Aragon.

King Juan Carlos visited the institution on its 100th anniversary recently and called on the armed forces to respect the democratic constitution enacted after the long Franco dictatorship.

"We were not mistaken when we chose liberty and justice as aims to build a pluralistic society, and a single Spain," he said in a speech. "We were not mistaken when we decided to follow with the fullest collective responsibility, the same path as the free nations of the West."

The King also visited the academy five days after the Feb. 23 coup attempt. In a television speech, he reaffirmed his close ties with the armed forces and warned politicians and the press not to antagonise the military with indiscriminate charges of sedition.

Thirty-two officers, including three generals, are on trial in Madrid in connection with the coup, the failure of which was attributed to the King's firm opposition.

The academy, where the King was once a cadet, has been closely linked with Spain's turbulent political history. Opened in Toledón 1882, it was closed down in 1893 because politicians feared that a well-trained, united army would be tempted to seize power.

In 1927 the prime minister, General Miguel Primo De Rivera, another product of the academy, decided to reopen it. General Franco, fresh from Spain's colonial wars in Africa and the army's youngest general, was appointed commandant.

The academy was moved to Saragossa, halfway between Madrid and Barcelona, where General Franco supervised the construction of the buildings, drew up the academic courses and wrote a 10-point cadet code of honour which is still used today. One of the rules: Never gossip.

General Franco tackled his job with zest, borrowing techniques from the German army he admired. But his tenure lasted only three years.

In 1931 King Juan Carlos' grandfather, Alfonso XIII, abdicated following a struggle by workers' movements and political parties for a republic and the new government promptly shut down the academy.

Bidding farewell to his cadets, General Franco said: "The machine is dismantled but the work remains."

Two years after the civil war ended with the defeat of the republicans, General Franco reopened the academy.

Today the bronze statue of General Franco on horseback guards its gates.

Physically the academy has changed little since General Franco's death. The courtyard's cobblestones, polished by the boots of generations of cadets, glisten in the sun. In the neat gardens is a bronze bust of King Juan Carlos' great-grandmother, Queen Maria Cristina, who embroidered the academy's flag in 1886.

But in the classrooms, there is an increasing emphasis on foreign languages, psychology and education to be good citizens in a democratic society as Spain prepares to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) defence alliance and the European Economic Community.

A barman who has served cadets for 20 years in his beer-cellar near Saragossa's cathedral, said: "They have always been well-behaved but now they seem less arrogant."

General Fernando Soteras, Spain's director of military education, says the academy must change with the times.

"We cannot forget the glorious past," he said in a speech. "But we are not anchored to nostalgia because the national and international scene is in constant evolution. We have to adapt to social and political changes and be capable of facing the future. We are prepared to obey the laws and respect liberty."

The academy's commandant, General Luis Prieto, reckons that today's cadets will be Spain's generals in the year 2000. The success or failure of the new style of military education may not be known until then.

Armico board discusses Arab mining projects

AMMAN (Petra) — Projects in Tunisia and Morocco in which the Arab Mining Company (Armico) will participate were on the agenda of the company's board meeting which was held here Wednesday.

The board, meeting under the chairmanship of Dr. Abdul Razaq Al Hashimi, also reviewed progress in a number of Armico's current projects in several Arab countries, as well as the company's 1981 report and final accounts, prior to referring them to Armico's forthcoming general assembly meeting.

On the board are representatives of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Libya and Jordan. Armico Director General Thabet Al Taher took part in the meeting. Armico currently holds 25 per cent of the capital of the Arab Potash Company, whose extraction plant is to be inaugurated at Ghor Al Safi by King Hussein Thursday. Armico's board members, who arrived in Amman Tuesday night, will attend the inauguration ceremony.

Scandinavian exhibit opens

AMMAN (J.T.) — Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Iba Zaid stood in for Her Majesty Queen Noor Wednesday in opening an exhibition of Scandinavian Crafts and Design at the Alfa Art Gallery.

On display until March 24 is a collection of industrial designs, silverware, pottery, jewelry, rugs, lamps and various other items by Scandinavian artists.

The opening ceremony was attended by Ministry of Information Under-Secretary Peter Salah, several members of the diplomatic corps in Amman and a crowd of art lovers.

Iraqi envoy explains war to American Arab guests

AMMAN (Petra) — Iraqi Ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim Shuja' Sultan met on Wednesday with a delegation representing the American Federation of Ramallah, Palestine.

At the meeting Mr. Sultan said that Iraq's war against Iran is being waged in defence of Iraq's national rights and territorial waters, and to safeguard the rights of future generations against Iranian aggression. Mr. Sultan also praised His Majesty King Hussein's establishment of the Yarmouk Force, which he said "opened the door for Jordanian volunteers to take part in the war alongside their Iraqi brethren in their just battle against the Persian aggressors."

This participation represents heroic interaction between Arab people in the defence of their Arab land which is being subjected to aggression. Mr. Sultan said.

He told the delegation, which has already visited Iraq on its tour of the region, that what its members had been in his country is a demonstration of a new stage of development in various fields, and "a victory that will lead to the major victory in Palestine."

In reply, the delegation's head President Federation Edward Ajlouny, expressed deep appreciation of and admiration for the progress and development Iraq is undergoing. The delegation is proud to be affiliated with the Arab Nation, and feels deep pride in the leadership of Iraqi President

Saddam Hussein, he said. He also expressed the hope that the Iraqi people will achieve final success in all their endeavours.

Labour ties mooted with Morocco

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Morocco held talks on bilateral cooperation in labour-related affairs Wednesday.

An announcement said that the two sides, meeting at the Labour Ministry, explored the possibility of concluding a bilateral agreement on labour cooperation and the employment of Jordanian and Moroccan labourers each other's countries. The two sides agreed on the outlines of an agreement that will be signed later this year, the announcement said.

Heading Jordan's team in the talks was Labour Ministry Under-Secretary Tayseer Abdul Jaber and the Moroccan side, Moroccan Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training Under-Secretary Abdul Latif Ahmad Mohammad. Mr. Mohammad arrived in Amman Wednesday on his way home after taking part in the 10th Arab labour conference, which concluded in Baghdad on Tuesday.

Abdul Jaber back from Baghdad conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Labour Ministry Under-Secretary Tayseer Abdul Jaber returned to Amman Wednesday after participating in the 10th Arab Labour Conference in Baghdad, which concluded Tuesday.

The conference instructed the Arab Labour Office's director general to draw up practical principles for Arab cooperation in vocational training and in

defining the role of governments, employers and workers in contributing to such cooperation. Dr. Abdul Jaber said in a statement.

He said that the conference adopted other recommendations, including one which calls on the director general to hold contacts and provide technical expertise to set up a social security system for the Palestinian people.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

U. of J. supplies materials to Kuwait

AMMAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan library has supplied the Kuwaiti manuscripts institute with reproductions of manuscripts from the Khalidiyah library in Jerusalem, the library says in a bulletin. It said that it had also supplied the Kuwaiti institute with a set of Jordanian publications dealing with manuscripts. The bulletin said that the library has lately classified 546 books in Arabic and 403 others in foreign languages, which it added to its collection.

RSS aide to attend energy conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Deputy Director Fakhreddin Daghestani will take part in the meetings of a committee of specialists on new and renewable sources of energy which will open early next week in London. During its three-day meetings, the committee will discuss subjects connected with recommendations of the U.N. conference on alternative energy resources which was held in Nairobi towards the end of last year, Dr. Daghestani said. The meetings will be held at the invitation of Oxford University's research centre.

NRA official to go to Hammad meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will participate in a seminar on the geological aspect of the Hammad project which will open in Damascus on Tuesday. Participants in the three-day seminar will discuss subjects connected with a geological map and geological divisions of the basin, which borders on Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Saudi Arabia. Participants from these four countries and foreign specialists who conducted a geological survey of the basin will take part in the meeting, which is organised by the Arab Centre for the Study of Dry Regions and Arid Territories. Engineer Ahmad Kailani from the Natural Resources Authority will represent Jordan at the meeting.

Cultural link sealed with Yugoslavia

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Yugoslavia signed here Wednesday a two-year programme to promote bilateral cooperation in education and cultural activities.

The agreement provides for the exchange of expertise in education, the establishment of direct contacts between Jordanian and Yugoslav universities and the acceptance of Jordanian students at Yugoslav universities to study television film production and acting. It also provides for art exhibitions in each country by artists from the other, and for the encouragement of information cooperation. The production and distribution of films, and the exchange of information on the achievements of both countries in various fields, are important areas of information cooperation.

National Planning Council (NPC) President Hanna Odeh and Yugoslav Ambassador to Jordan Dusan Zavanik signed the 1982-84 agreement at the NPC. Following the signing ceremony, Mr. Zavanik and Dr. Odeh expressed hope that the agreement will help further to promote cooperation between Yugoslavia and Jordan.

Today's weather

With the approach of a cold front, it will be cool and partly cloudy to cloudy, with scattered rain in the north. Winds will be northwesterly moderate to fresh. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy and hazy, with a chance of scattered showers, northerly moderate winds and calm seas.

	Overnight low	Daytime high
Amman	5	12
Aqaba	11	20
Deserts	6	16
Jordan Valley	10	19

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 14, Aqaba 22. Humidity readings: Amman 68 per cent, Aqaba 34 per cent.

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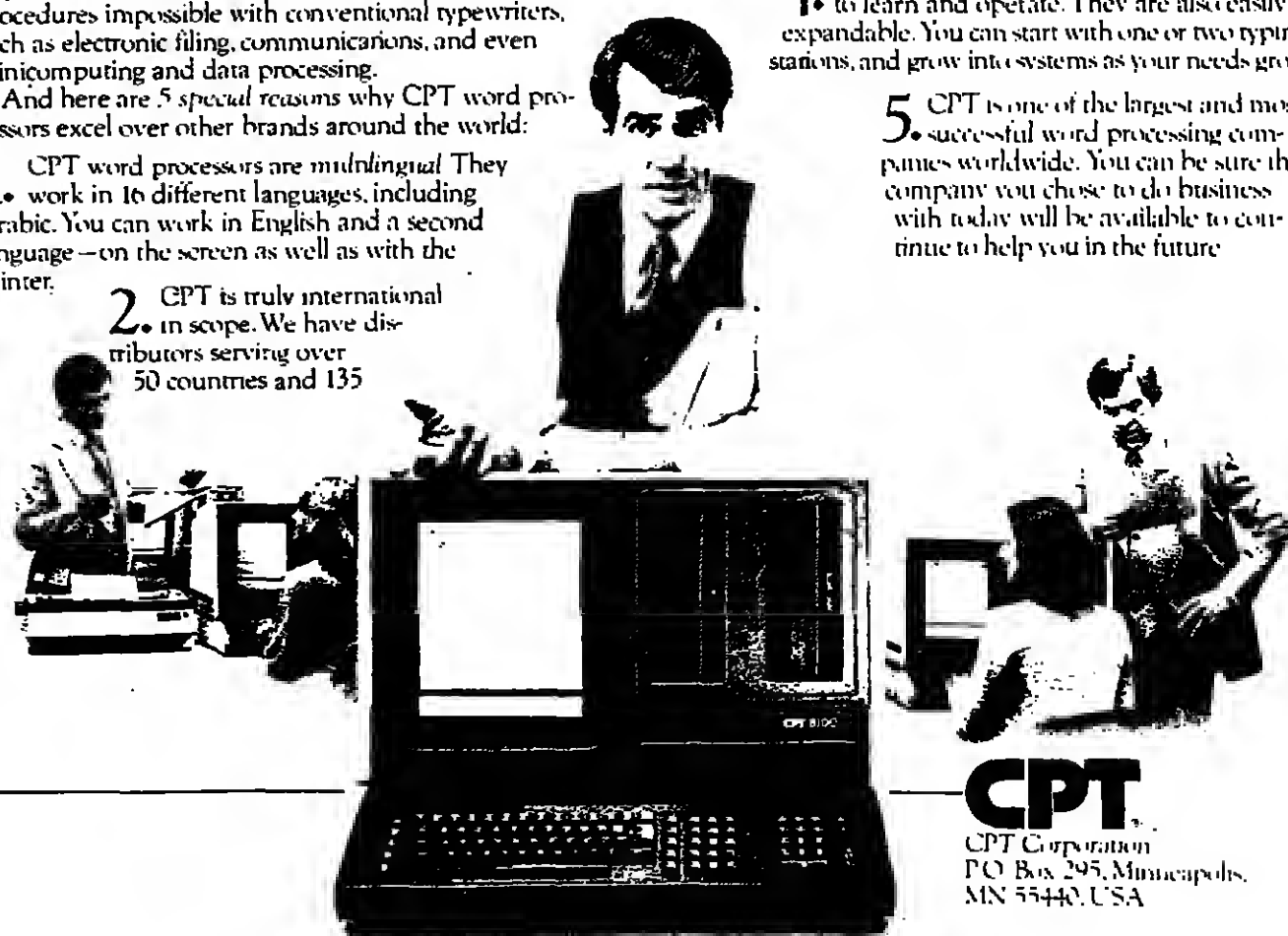
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NATIONAL

But limited and low-income groups need more

Housing sector marks phenomenal growth

This is the first of a five-part series in which Samira Kawar examines the housing situation in Jordan. In today's article, the writer reports on the growth that this vital sector of the economy has shown over the past decade and analyses the factors contributing to, or restricting this growth.

A CURSORY LOOK at Jordan's housing sector would suggest a phenomenal growth over the past several years that was sufficient to cope with the population's increased housing needs.

Expenditure on construction in general increased from JD 7.7 million in 1970 to JD 43 million in 1979, or JD 3.5 million a year. The launching of a three-year development plan in 1973 effected a large increase in construction, which registered a 64.8 per cent rise. Another major increase (44.7 per cent in 1976) was caused by Jordan's first five-year development plan.

The growth in the construction of housing over the past ten years paralleled the growth in construction. An average growth of 15.2 per cent in the value of home ownership was registered for the period between 1970 and 1979. A phenomenal jump of 58.8 per cent in the value of home ownership occurred in 1977, according to Housing Corporation figures. This huge growth was attributed to an expansion of investment in the housing sector, triggered by the enactment of the Encouragement of Investment Law. Several public and private institutions began to invest more heavily in housing to benefit from the exemptions specified by the provisions of the new

law.

In Absolute terms, the value of home ownership increased from JD 10 million in 1970 to JD 27 million in 1977. Moreover, Housing Corporation figures indicate a further expansion in the housing sector based on predicted increases in the gross domestic product (GDP). GDP at market prices jumped more than 260 per cent from JD 174.4 million in 1970 to JD 632.8 million in 1979. This increase has raised per capita income, leading to a better fulfillment of basic needs of which housing enjoys top priority.

A closer glance at Jordan's housing sector, however, indicates that the housing needs of limited and low-income groups are not being adequately satisfied, and that it is upper-income groups that can afford the relatively expensive mainly supplied by the private sector, which have by and large constituted the bulk of the supply on Jordan's housing market.

Housing Corporation figures indicate that the number of dwellings constructed by private individuals or companies in 1976 was 3,418 -- about 56 per cent of the actual supply on the market. In 1977 and 1978, the private sector contributed more than 98.5 per cent of the country's new dwellings.

lings.

Housing Corporation figures indicate that the supply of low and middle-cost housing from 1969 to 1980 did not catch up with the demand, which increased to unprecedented levels, because most of the supply comprised high cost dwellings. This has led to an acute housing problem for low and medium-income groups in Jordan, according to a report recently published by the Housing Corporation. The report holds that the problem has been accentuated by the high rate of population growth, conservatively estimated at 3.37 per cent per annum.

Other contributing factors to increased housing costs have been the breakdown of the extended family, increased migration of the rural population to the cities, the steep rise in the cost of building materials and spiralling prices of land. The report indicates that expenditure on housing absorbs as much as 20 to 35 per cent of Jordanian family budgets.

The financial burden placed on low and middle-income groups has been enforced by a parallel increase in the cost of living. The average cost of a housing unit increased from JD 2,849 in 1969 to JD 7,878 in 1980 (176 per cent), while the cost of living in Amman increased by 146 per cent during the same period. Housing Corporation figures show that expenditure on housing by government employees in major Jordanian towns averaged 26.3 per cent of the family expenditures, exceeding World Bank estimates for middle-income countries by 11.3 per cent and leading to the conclusions that high housing costs in Jordan are severely exhausting the population's funds for other basic needs.

The chances for low and middle-income families to own adequate housing have been further weakened by the dis-

proportion between salary increases for most employees in all sectors and the increase in housing costs. Salary increases for government employees, for example, ranged between 100 and 129 per cent between 1972 and 1978, whereas the rise in the cost of building per housing unit rose by 176 per cent for the same period. This has disqualified most limited-income employees who apply for housing loans, since Housing Law Number 27 specifies repayment instalments may not exceed 25 per cent of the borrower's income. The salaries of many government and private sector employees are clearly not high enough to meet such a requirement.

The absence of long-term mortgage arrangements is a further handicap to real estate development, according to Mr. Fakhri Abu Shaqra, chairman and managing director of the International Contracting and Investment Company (ICICO) -- a company involved in the construction of the 15,000-unit low-cost housing project sponsored by the Housing Corporation in Aqaba, in addition to its recently launched high-cost deluxe housing project in Khaldia. Under the current law, the maximum period for any mortgage is 15 years because the law specifies that the total interest paid on mortgages may not exceed the value of the mortgage itself. Mr. Abu Shaqra believes that unless a more adequate mortgage system is introduced, the development of non-subsidised housing for limited income groups will continue to be severely hampered and most housing projects will remain dependent on individuals who have capital surpluses. His company, he says, is interested in launching self-generating housing projects for medium-income groups, but is in need of arranging long-term mortgage systems to make them feasible. He believes that financial

regulations must be amended to allow banks and other financial institutions to manage long-term mortgages. ICICO has approached several financial institutions, including the Islamic Bank, with such proposals. Mr. Abu Shaqra told the Jordan Times.

A Housing Corporation report indicates that the average cost of building a square metre area will continue to rise by JD 5 a year and will increase from JD 80 this year to 95 by 1985. The increase in housing cost is also explained by the increase in land prices, wages of construction workers and the conservatively-estimated 10 per cent annual rise in the cost of building materials.

Low-cost housing projects for low and middle income groups subsidised by public institutions like the Housing Corporation, utilise locally-produced building

materials wherever possible in an effort to minimise building costs. Nevertheless, the corporation exceeded allocations during the 1976-1980 five-year plan period by 65 per cent, investing JD 33 million instead of the budgeted JD 20 million. Most of this excess was eaten up by the increase in the cost of building materials and labour, according to the corporation's recently published report.

Mr. Abu Shaqra pointed out high-cost housing projects, such as the ICICO's in Khaldia, also utilise locally-manufactured basic building materials such as cement and sand. The rest of the materials, particularly the finishing materials and plumbing installations, are all of imported "superior quality," he said. The high cost of building materials, however, is not due to the more expensive process of importing building materials, but to the rise in the cost of local materials, he added. Fuel and cement prices are continually on the rise and several government decrees have served to progressively and steeply increase the price of locally-manufactured cement, he said. Such decrees have meant an increase of about JD 30,000 in cement costs alone for the Housing Corporation-sponsored Aqaba project which ICICO has undertaken to construct as a contractor, said Mr. Abu Shaqra.

Taking into account Jordan's increased housing needs, the Housing Corporation estimates that the construction of 18,799 new dwellings will be necessary in 1990 to cope with the demand and that the construction of 24,093 new housing units will be needed in the year 2000 to satisfy the demand. This means that an average of 18,000 new housing units a year are needed between now and the year 2000.

Mr. Abu Shaqra predicts that future trends in the building of houses will tend towards more flats and high-rise buildings because of the high cost of land and building materials. In spite of the fact that demand for detached and semi-detached villas is still high among upper income groups, Mr. Abu Shaqra believes that the future for housing for these groups also lies in large flat complexes. Prefabricated houses as a solution to Jordan's housing problem have no future, he said.

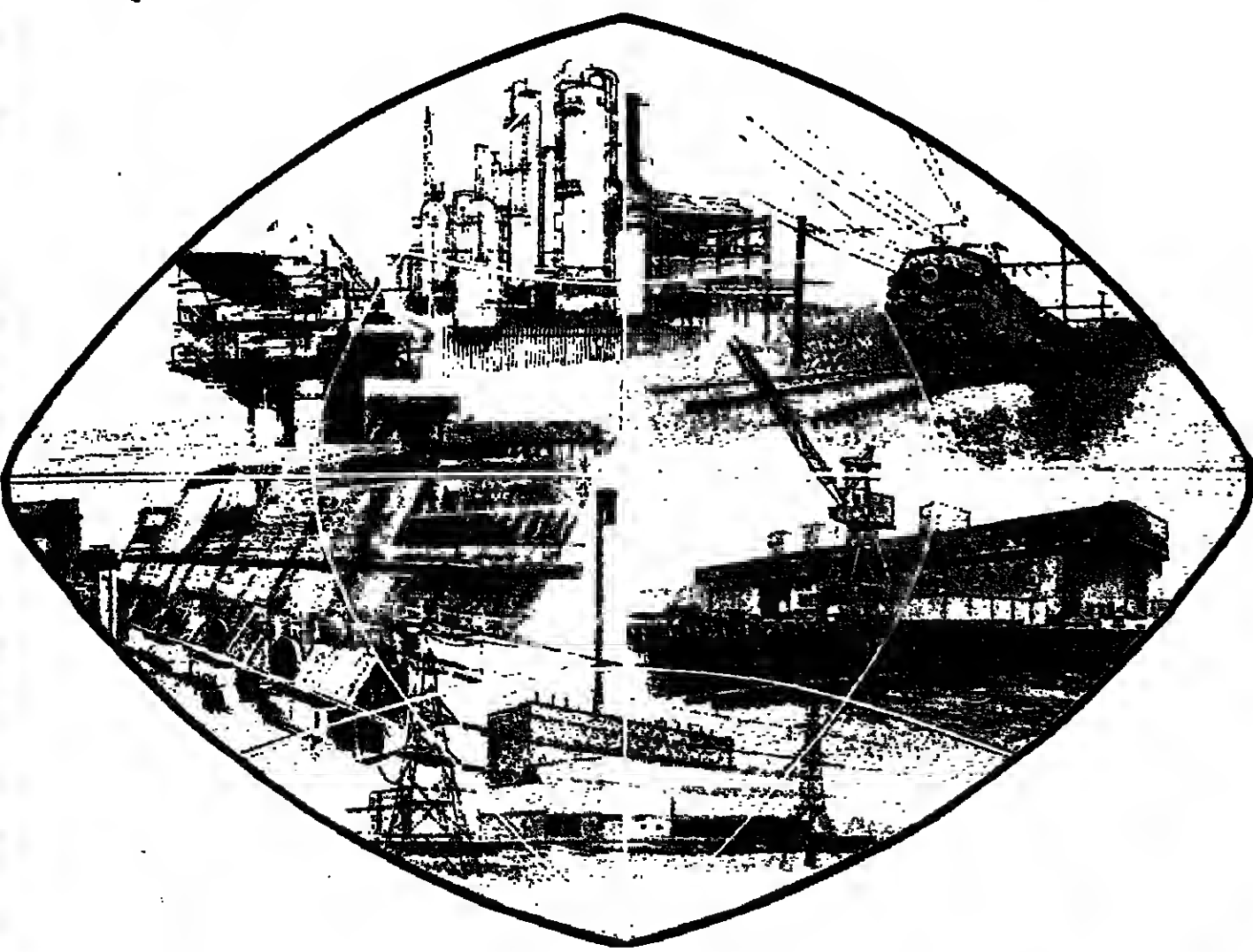
As far as building materials are concerned, Mr. Abu Shaqra detects a switch towards the use of mechanised building systems, which necessitates the use of concrete, instead of stone. However, stone will always remain welcome for "decorative purposes" and as an outer layer for the covering of concrete facades.



One of the earliest housing projects in Amman Governorate was the Dhahyat Al Hussein, built in the early 1970s for government employees with medium income.

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هكذا عن العالم

SPORTS

Libya sweeps into African soccer final

TRIPOLI (R) — Libya, buoyed by the enthusiastic support of a 40,000-strong home crowd, swept through to the final of the African Nations' Soccer Cup for the first time Tuesday night when they defeated Zambia 3-1.

Ali Beshari grabbed a goal in the match's dying minutes to give Libya the match and spark victory celebrations among the crowd which continued long after the match had ended.

Zambia took the lead with a Peter Kuamba goal in the 28th minute goal, but Libya quickly hit back Sassi Egaili heading a goal seven minutes later. The second half was a tense battle until Beshari shot the winning goal.

Zambian goalkeeper Ghost Mulenga, an early casualty of some bruising exchanges in the first half, was forced to leave the field in the 25th minute after a clash with Libyan left winger Faraj Barossi.

Mulenga was taken to hospital for stitches to a cut above his right eye.

Libya meet Ghana in Friday's final here following the three-time champions 3-2 win over World Cup finalists Algeria in Benghazi Tuesday night.

Peru to embark on World Cup warm-up campaign

LIMA (R) — World Soccer Cup finalists Peru will embark on a seven-match tour of the United States and Europe next month in preparation for the finals in Spain in June.

Spanish businessman Fernando Torcal, who arranged the tour, said the first match would be on April 4 against the New York Cosmos.

From there they travel to Italy to play Fiorentina on April 7 and Inter Milan on April 14.

On April 20 the Peruvians will face Spanish club La Coruna in the stadium where they will meet Cameroon and Poland in Group One of the finals.

Their match against Italy, the other Group One member, will be in Vigo.

Anne Audian sets 5000m record

AUCKLAND (R) — New Zealand's Anne Audian set a world fastest time for the women's 5,000 metres Wednesday night when she clipped 1.29 seconds off the mark set by Paula Fudge of Britain last year.

She clocked 15 minutes 13.22 seconds, with a scorching final lap of 68 seconds.

The record attempt seemed in jeopardy until the 3,000-metre mark when Audian decided to break away from her two supporting runners.

"I didn't know whether I was committing suicide but I wasn't just going to go close," she said later.

Mahre brothers capture giant slalom

BAD KLEINKIRCHHEIM, Austria (R) — American twin ski races Steve and Phil Mahre continued their victory sweep by capturing first and second places respectively in a men's World Cup giant slalom Wednesday.

But the battle for the World Cup giant slalom title between Phil Mahre and Sweden's Ingemar Stenmark remained open, with each totalling 100 points.

World champion Steve Mahre swooped and swerved in two faultless runs through 60 and 55 gates of a course with a 400 metres vertical drop in a winning aggregate time of two minutes 34.16 seconds.

Brother Phil, who has already clinched this year's overall World Cup title but has yet to win a giant slalom race, followed in 2:34.23.

Stenmark has won four of the season's seven giant slaloms but came only 17th after two runs in which he seemed listless and made many mistakes. He is second in the overall standings.

The Mahres' triumph followed double success in Jasna, Czechoslovakia, last weekend when Steve won a giant slalom on Saturday and Phil took first place in a slalom on Sunday.

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GOREN BRIDGE

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠K865 ♣A ♠A984 ♠7643
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A9 ♠A87 ♠K1073 ♠Q85
Partner opens the bidding with two no trump. What do you respond?

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠J965 ♠KJ5 ♠KJ1073 ♠5
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
Pass Pass 1 ♠ Dble
Pass 2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠
Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠A9652 ♠K10872 ♠7 ♠87
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AQ ♠K107 ♠QJ82 ♠J952
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass
3 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AK8763 ♠K6 ♠J6 ♠K98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass
3 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

Look for answers on Sunday.

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Jordan Electricity Authority

Tender no. 11/82 ERECTION OF HIGH VOLTAGE AND LOW VOLTAGE DISTRIBUTION NETWORKS FOR SOUTH RURAL ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT

Jordan Electricity Authority announces the availability of tender documents for tender no. 11/82 for the erection, testing, commissioning and maintenance for 12 months of high voltage and low voltage distribution networks, for South Rural Electrification Project. This tender will be financed by the World Bank; consequently only contractors from countries which are members of the World Bank, in addition to Switzerland and Taiwan, are invited to participate. One set of tender documents for this tender can be collected from:

Tender Section, Purchasing Dept.
Jordan Electricity Authority
5th Circle, Jabal Amman

at a non-refundable amount of J.D 50 for each copy. The deadline for receiving offers on this tender will be at 12 noon on Monday, 17/5/1982. Offers to be submitted to secretary of the Tendering Committee at the above address. Offers should be accompanied by a bid bond equal to two per cent of the total offer value.

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If you are a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies and live in Jordan please contact the British Consul in order to obtain a registration card.

If you registered before 1 January 1981 and have not confirmed your continued presence in Jordan, please do so by contacting the British Consul as soon as possible. British nationals who have registered at the embassy since 1 January 1981, but whose address or phone numbers have changed, should notify the Consul of any such changes.

If you are a citizen of a Commonwealth country which does not have an embassy or consulate in Jordan, or if you are citizen of the Republic of Ireland, please ask the British Consul about registration formalities.

The British Embassy is located on Third Circle in Jabal Amman. The phone numbers are 41261 - 67, and the post office box number is 87.

The embassy is open from Sunday until Thursday, 0830 1330 hours.

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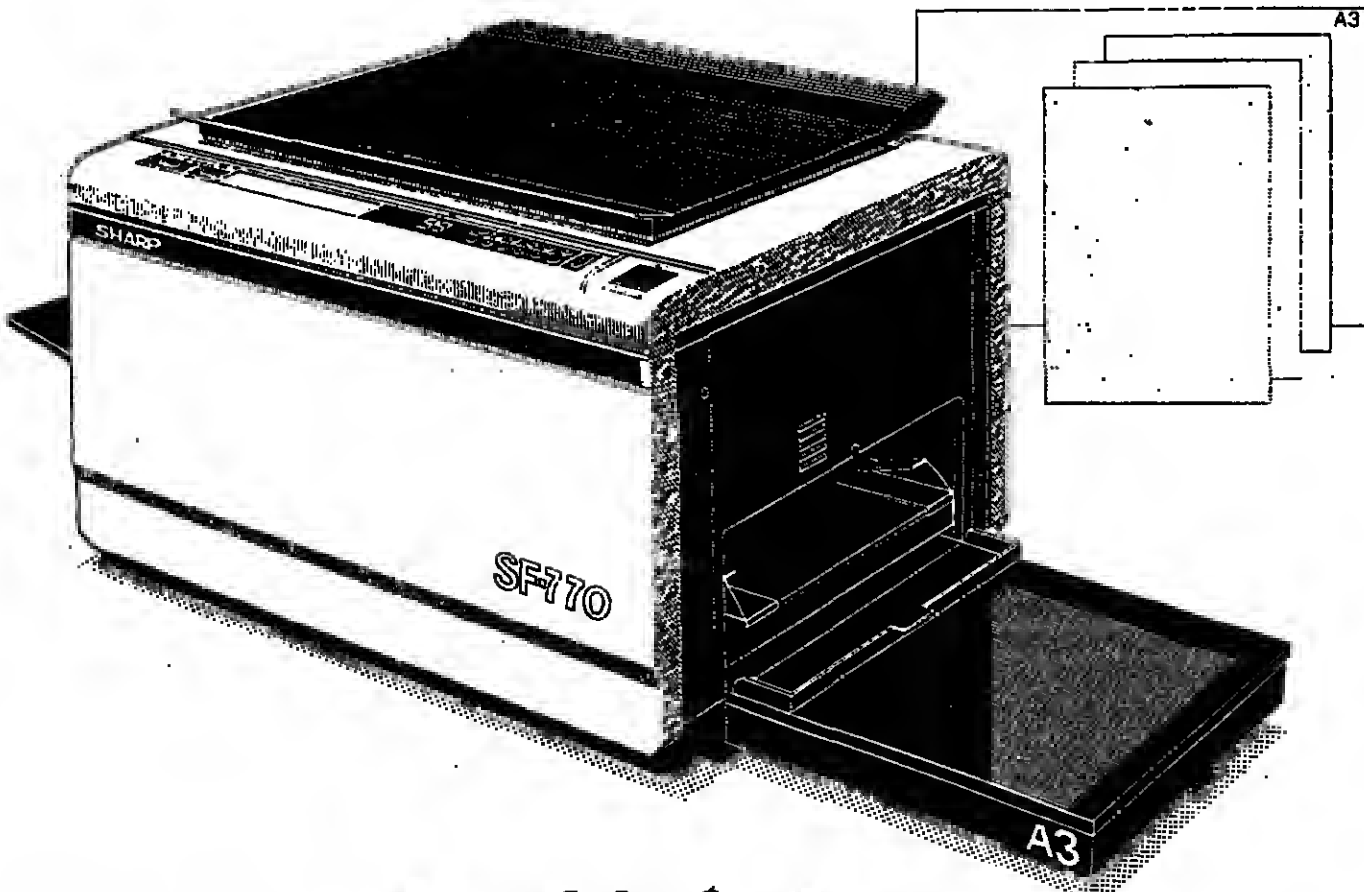


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ECONOMY

U.S. bank rates may rise further

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. interest rates, already at a level where key American industries are being severely hurt, could rise still further and prevent an economic recovery predicted for later this year, according to one of Wall Street's most respected economists.

Henry Kaufman also predicted Tuesday that the government's budget deficit could come to \$135 billion next year, more than double the previous record shortfall and well above the figure predicted by the Reagan administration.

Mr. Kaufman, of the New York investment firm of Salomon Brothers, spoke to a congressional committee as four leading banks raised the prime rate charged on business loans to 16.5 per cent from 16 per cent.

Morgan Guaranty, Chase Manhattan and Bankers Trust, all of New York, and First National of Chicago brought their rates up to the level already charged by other major U.S. banks.

President Reagan and his economic advisers have repeatedly said that interest rates should soon begin to fall. But Mr. Kaufman said they could rise unless current fiscal and monetary policies were changed.

Mr. Kaufman also urged Congress to postpone most of Mr. Reagan's tax cuts for the next two years and alter the way in which the Federal Reserve Board, the country's central bank, controls

the money supply.

"I believe that today's policies do not sufficiently limit the possibility of staying into unnecessary economic tragedy, for these policies have failed to gain the confidence and support in at least one vital area: the financial market," Mr. Kaufman said.

"Our economy and financial market are more fragile than at any time since World War Two."

High U.S. rates have also brought cries of indignation from America's industrial allies and developing countries.

The Europeans and Japanese complain that U.S. interest levels have attracted capital that could have gone into their economies, and forced them to raise their own rates to compete.

Kuwaiti aid totals \$592m in 3 months

KUWAIT (A.P.) — Kuwait topped petrodollar development lenders while Arab and Asian states led recipients in a \$592 million aid operation during the last three months of 1981.

The figures were given in a statement Wednesday by the coordinating secretariat of seven lending and aid institutions: The Saudi, Kuwaiti, Abu Dhabi and Arab development funds, the Islamic Bank, the Arab Bank for African Development, and the OPEC Fund for International

Development.

The Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development provided \$173.7 million, or 29.3 per cent of the total aid volume.

Arab and Asian states had the largest share of loans among the 33 recipients. Forty per cent of the total went to Arab countries, 34.9 per cent to Asian countries, and 21 per cent to African states.

Two Latin American countries received two loans worth \$23 million, or four per cent of the total figure.

Jordan and Pakistan were the

largest single recipients, with loans of \$100.8 million and \$77 million respectively.

The allocations included 30 loans totalling \$444 million for financing telecommunications, ports, roads, airports, water resources, electrification, agricultural and industrial projects.

In addition, loans totalling \$131.2 million were extended to financing trade operations and balance of payments deficits, and 16 feasibility study protocols were granted at a cost of \$16.8 million.

Africa food problems blamed on aid agencies

NAIROBI (R) — The U.N. World Food Council (WFC) Wednesday blamed Africa's critical food problems on international aid agencies and the continent's governments.

The WFC said in a report that a sharp drop in African food production in the past 20 years had undermined prospects for social and economic progress.

The report, presented to a WFC meeting here, said the situation

was critical and called for urgent measures.

Per capita food production in Africa during the 1960s and 1970s fell by seven and 15 per cent respectively, while food consumption per person dropped 10 per cent over the last decade despite a doubling of food imports, it said.

Many African governments had failed to give food production adequate priority while aid agencies had concentrated on indi-

vidual projects rather than broad strategies and programmes.

"Hunger and malnutrition during the 1980s can be expected to become far more widespread in this region, where mortality rates are already among the highest in the world, unless concrete measures are intensified to reverse these trends," it said.

The report by the WFC, a watchdog body which tries to coordinate food aid, took international aid agencies to task for

failing to coordinate their programmes.

It cited the case of the West African state of Upper Volta, which received 340 external aid million last year.

"The government was not able to keep up with the aid agencies' coordination requirements with resulting fusion at all levels and a loss of resources and efficiency," document said.

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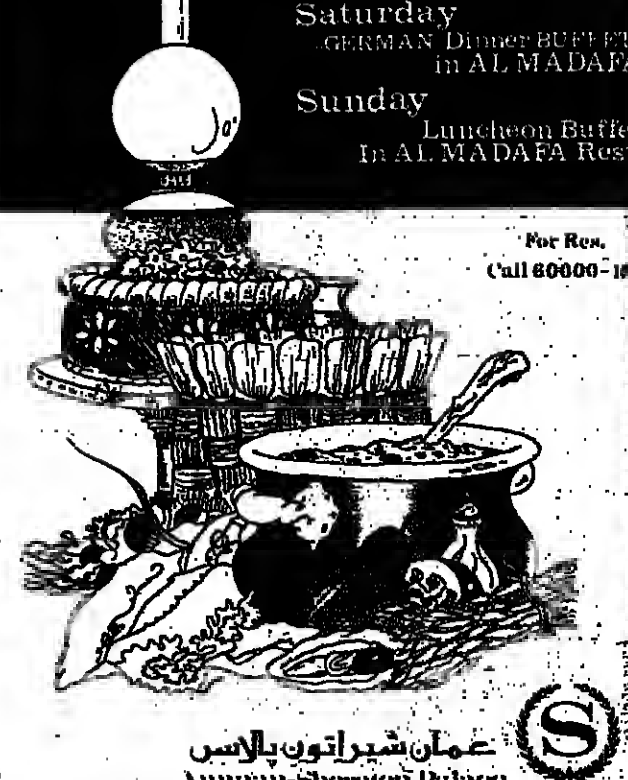
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Saturday GERMAN Dinner Buffet in AL MADAF

Sunday Luncheon Buffet in AL MADAF Rest



LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.8073.84	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2157 nll	Canadian dollars
	2.3745/55	West German marks
	2.6045 75	Dutch guilders
	1.8810/20	Swiss francs
	44.19 22	Belgian francs
	6.1300 30	French francs
	128.65/1287.15	Italian lire
	241.25/40	Japanese yen
	5.8305 25	Swedish crowns
	6.0175/45	Norwegian crowns
	7.9790/981.5	Danish crowns
Once ounce of gold	314.00/60	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market was lower across the board Wednesday on concern over the future trend of U.S. interest rates, dealers said.

Equities were further depressed by disappointing results from Turner and Newall and at 1500 the F.T. index, of which Turner is a constituent, was down 12.1 at 550.3. The company passed the final dividend after reporting an attributable 1981 loss of £26.1 million and the shares slumped 18p to 77. Grand Met, GKN, Boots and Hawker Siddeley fell 5p or 6p and other leaders around 3p.

Gold shares ended above the lows after the slight rally in the bullion price while North Americans generally eased.

Conventional government bonds were as much as 1/2 point down at the long end and index linked stocks also eased ahead of the tender Thursday of the Treasury two per cent 1988 issue. Lex Service added 7p to 116 after figures and Arthur Holden jumped 22p to 180. ICI's bid for Holden was Tuesday referred to the monopolies commission. Bats fell 13p to 400 in the wake of Tuesday's offer for Marshall Field.

Midland Bank added 2p ahead of results due Friday but the other clearers extended losses seen since the budget by 5p to 7p.

JORDAN TELEVISION FOR THURSDAY

CHANNEL 3

4:30	Koran
4:45	Children's programme
5:10	Children's programme
5:55	Programme Preview
7:00	Local Competition Programme
8:00	News in Arabic
8:30	Arabic Series
9:30	Documentary
10:10	Arabic Play
11:00	News Summary

CHANNEL 6

6:00	French Programme
7:00	News in French
7:30	News in Hebrew
8:30	A Sharp Intake
9:10	Rockford Files
10:00	News in English
10:15	Movie of the Week: "Any Wednesday"

FOR FRIDAY

6:00	French Programme
7:00	News in French
7:30	News in Hebrew
8:30	A Sharp Intake
9:10	Rockford Files
10:00	News in English
10:15	Movie of the Week: "Any Wednesday"

FOR FRIDAY

6:00	French Programme
7:00	News in French
7:30	News in Hebrew
8:30	A Sharp Intake
9:10	Rockford Files
10:00	News in English
10:15	Movie of the Week: "Any Wednesday"

RADIO JORDAN 655 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM FOR THURSDAY

7:00	Sign on
7:30	Morning Show
7:40	News Bulletin
7:50	Morning Show
8:00	News Summary
8:05	Pop Session
8:10	Signing off
11:00	News Headlines
12:00	Pop Session
12:05	News Summary
12:10	Pop Session
12:15	News
12:20	Instrumentals

FOR FRIDAY

14:30	Now Music
15:00	Concert Hour
16:00	News Summary
16:03	Instrumentals
16:30	Old Favourites
17:00	Special Feature
17:30	Pop Session
18:00	News Summary
18:03	French way of Life
18:30	World of Arabian Music
19:00	News Desk
19:30	Music
20:30	Evening Show
21:00	News Summary
21:03	Evening Show
22:00	Close down

FOR FRIDAY

7:00	Sign on
7:01	Morning Show
7:30	News Bulletin
7:40	Morning Show
8:00	News Summary
8:03	Pop Session
8:10	Listeners' Choice
12:00	News Headlines
12:03	Friday Special
13:00	News Summary
13:03	Pop Session
14:00	News
14:10	Instrumentals
14:30	In Concert
15:00	Concert Hour
16:00	News Summary
16:03	Instrumentals
16:30	Old Favourites
17:00	Pop Session
18:00	News Summary
18:30	Top Twenty
19:00	News Desk
19:30	Country Music
20:30	Over a Cup of Tea
21:00	Jazz Hour
22:00	Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE FOR THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

639, 720, 1413 KHz

GMT	04:00 Newsdesk
04:30	International Soccer Special
04:45	Financial News
04:55	Reflections
05:00	World News: 24 Hours News Summary
05:30	Twentieth Century Folk
05:45	The World Today
06:00	Newsdesk
06:30	Nature Notebook
06:40	The Farming World
07:00	World News: 24 Hours: News Summary
07:30	Marching and Waltzing
07:45	Network U.K.
08:00	World News: Reflections
08:15	International Soccer Special
08:30	John Peel 09:00 World News: British Press Review
09:15	The World Today 09:30 Financial News
09:40	Look Ahead 09:45 Rock Salad
10:15	The Withered Arm
10:30	My Word! 11:00 World News: News about Britain
11:15	A Pattern of Faith 11:30 Assignment
12:00	Radio Newsworld 12:15 Top Twenty
12:45	Sports Round-up
13:00	World News: 24 Hours: News Summary
13:30	Network U.K.
13:45	The Pleasure's Yours

SELECTED CHANGES FOR FRIDAY

05:30 The King of Instruments
07:30 Backtracking 8:30 Smash of the Day: The Navy Lark 11:15 In the Meantime 12:15 Jazz for the Asking 13:30 Capricorn Africa 18:30 Musical Memories 20:30 The Reith Lectures 23:30 O. Henry

VOICE OF AMERICA FOR THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

GMT
03:00 Daybreak 04:00 The Breakfast Show 15:00 News Roundup: Reports, opinions, analyses 15:30 VO A Magazine Show: Americana, science, culture, letters 16:00 Special English News 16:10 Special English Science & Technology Report 16:15 Feature: The Making of a Nation (Friday: The Living Earth) 16:30 Now Music USA (Friday: Country Music USA) 17:00 News Roundup 17:30 Dateline 18:00 Special English News 18:10 Science and Technology Report 18:15 Feature 18:30 Music USA 19:00 News Roundup 19:30 VO A Magazine Show 20:10 Special English News 20:10 Science and Technology Report 20:15 Music USA: Jazz 21:00 VO A World Report

AMMAN AIRPORT

NOTE: The following airport arrivals and departures are provided to the Jordan Times by the Air Information Department at Amman Airport, Tel. 92205-6. They should always be verified by phone before the arrival or departure of the flight.

FOR THURSDAY

ARRIVALS:	
8:00	Cairo (EA)
8:45	Cairo

DEPARTURES

3:15	Budapest
3:30	Cairo
6:15	Frankfurt (LH)
6:30	Damascus
6:45	Beirut
7:00	Aqaba
9:25	Cairo (EA)
10:30	Rome
11:00	Amsterdam, New York
11:15	Athens
11:25	Madrid, Casablanca
11:30	Cairo
11:45	Geneva, Brussels
11:45	Geneva, Zurich (SR)
12:00	Paris, London
12:15	Riyadh (SV)
13:00	Cairo
15:00	Aqaba
16:30	Kuwait (KAC)
18:30	Beirut
19:00	Kuwait
20:15	Baghdad
20:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai
22:45	Baghdad

FOR FRIDAY

ARRIVALS:	
8:00	Cairo (EA)
8:55	Aqaba
9:40	Kuwait
9:45	Dubai, Abu Dhabi
10:00	Cairo
10:10	Dhahran
10:30	Beirut
15:25	Jeddah, Medina (SV)
15:45	Tripoli
16:45	Tripoli, Tunis
17:15	Houston, N. York Vienna
17:30	Kuwait (KAC)
17:35	Brussels, Geneva
17:40	Madrid, Athens
17:45	Frankfurt
18:00	London
19:25	Frankfurt (LH)
19:45	Paris (AF)
20:00	Beirut (MEA)
23:55	Baghdad

DEPARTURES

3:30	Cairo
6:00	Beirut, Amsterdam (KLM)
6:30	Beirut
7:00	Aqaba
9:00	Cairo (EA)
9:25	Beirut (MEA)
9:30	London (BA)
11:10	Vienna, N. York, Houston
11:30	Athens, Copenhagen
12:00	London
16:35	Medina, Jeddah (SV)
16:45	Tripoli
18:25	Kuwait (KAC)
18:50	Abu Dhabi
19:00	Kuwait
19:15	Riyadh (SV)
19:20	Bahrain, Doha
19:30	Dhahran
19:30	Jeddah
19:45	Baghdad
19:55	Abu Dhabi
20:30	Dubai, Karachi
23:30	Baghdad

EMERGENCIES

DOCTORS:
Amman:
Abdul Oader Al Lala 56046
Amin Abdul Jabbar 24222

Irbid:
Marwan Al Azam 74545

Zarg: 37169
Tareq Al Hijawi 85445

PHARMACIES:
Amman:
Neiroukh 23672
Salameh 94779
Fayez 61627
Al Safa 74054

Irbid:
Al Shifa 2708

Zarg:
Dalal (—)

TAXIS:
Venicia 44584
Al Najah 23630
Sports City 63273
Khaldoun 62315

CULTURAL CENTRES
American Centre 41520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 24049
Spanish Cultural Centre 39777
Turkish Cultural Centre 65195
Haya Arts Centre 67181
Al Hussein Youth City 41793
Y.W.C.A. 64251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 84355/84366

SERVICE CLUBS
Lions Philadelphia Club, Meetings every second and fourth Wed-

nesday at the Grand Palace Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
Lions Amman Club, Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
Rotary Club, Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2.00 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club, Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.

MUSEUMS

Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sunday to Friday. Closed on Saturdays. Tel. 64240.
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Friday and official holidays 10.00

a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed on Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century oriental artists. Muntazah, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed on Tuesdays. Tel. 30128

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr	4:21
Sunrise	5:42
Dhuhr	11:45
Asr	3:10
Maghreb	5:46
Isha	7:09

CHURCHES

Church of the Annunciation (Roman, Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh 37440
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Amman 24590
De la Saule Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein 66428
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abadi 23541
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman 23585
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh 75261

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government)	75111
Civil Defence rescue	61111
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	36381-2
Municipal water service (emergency)	71125-6-7-8
Police headquarters	39141
Najdah roving patrol rescue police. (English spoken)	24 hours a day for emergency
Airport information (ALIA)	92285/92286
Jordan Television	73111
Radio Jordan	74111

Firstaid, fire, police
Fire headquarters
Cablegram or telegram

Telephone:
Information
Jordan and Middle East trunk calls
Overseas radio and satellite calls
Telephone maintenance and repair service

MARKET PRICES

Hollywood-style White House for training purposes

WASHINGTON (R)—The government will build a Hollywood-style set of the White House and other buildings for training secret service agents in protecting U.S. presidents, security officials said Wednesday.

Facades of the White House and of nearby Blair House, used for foreign leaders, are to be built in the neighboring state of Maryland as part of a major expansion of training facilities, a secret service spokesman said.

The \$1.6 million project will also include a simulated shopping mall and a replica of a city street so that agents can focus on all aspects of security involved in protecting the president, his guests and the White House staff.

The White House is located on Pennsylvania Avenue, one of Washington's busiest streets, and lacks a defence in depth.

Across the street is Blair House, which two Puerto Rican nationalists tried to storm in an unsuccessful attempt to shoot President Harry Truman in 1950.

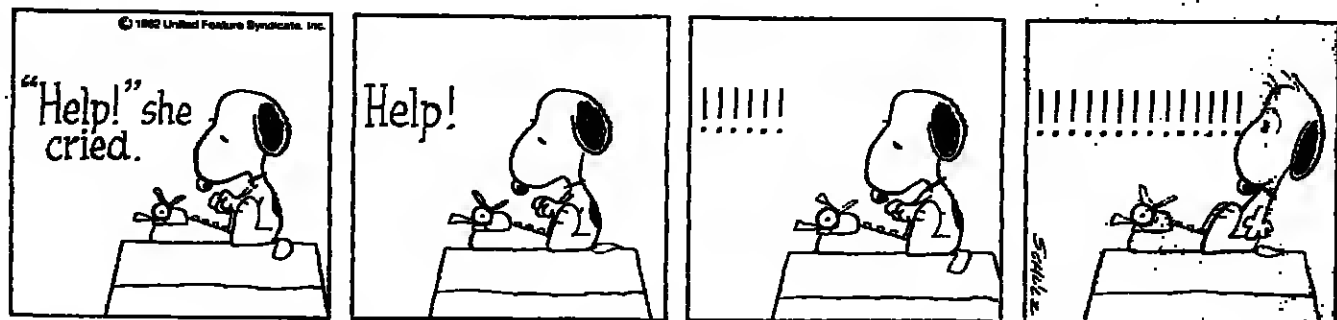
Mr. Truman was living in Blair House at the time during a Major renovation of the White House.

Over the past 11 years, secret service recruits being trained in presidential protection have been shown films of officials entering and leaving the White House and Blair House and have practised security measures at a mock shopping centre.

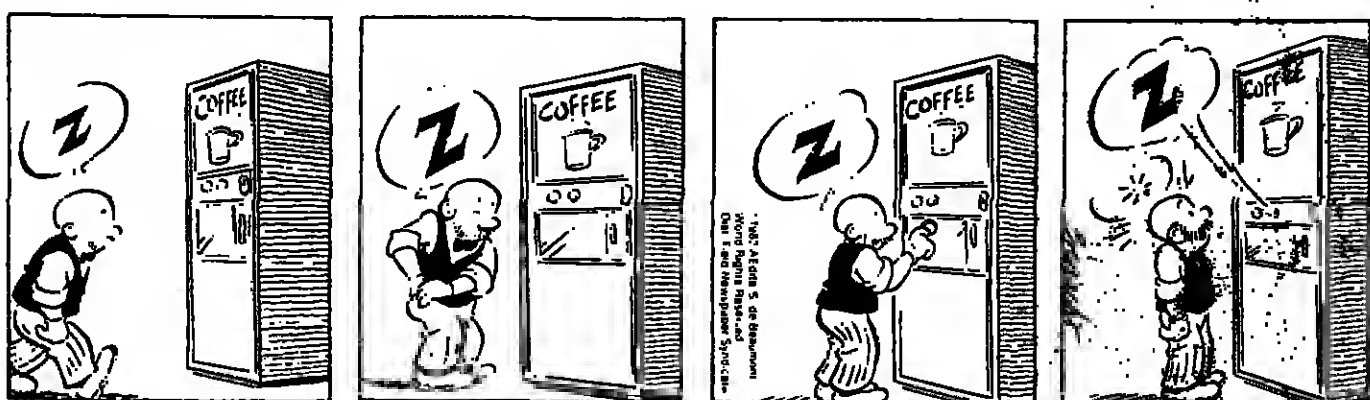
Other training has been conducted in the vicinity of the White House itself, but operations have become so complex that a new instruction centre with realistic facades has become necessary.

Security officials said plans for the new training centre were drawn up before the attempt to assassinate President Reagan outside a Washington hotel last March 30, in which the U.S. leader was wounded.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



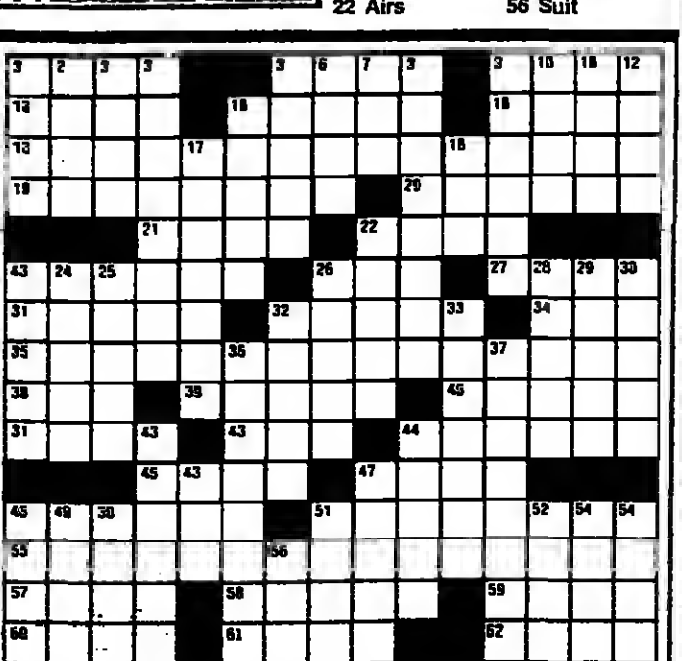
THE Daily Crossword

By Virginia Hassinger

- ACROSS**
- Incubation
 - Canvas, for short
 - Lamb
 - Sell: pref.
 - Actor Ray
 - Trumpeting song
 - Postlude
 - Wages
 - Aids: Fr.
 - Clutter
 - Menu item in Glasgow
 - Stoked
 - Blowgun missile
 - Famous racehorse
 - Crazed
 - Pulpit talk: abbr.
 - Kahn good-bye song
 - Addition to a house
 - Dances
 - Keston of films
 - Not so much
 - Aviv
 - Unstable
 - Particulates
 - Scuttles
 - Lomond, e.g.
 - Colorless animal
 - Will
 - Quandary
 - Bacchanalian cry
 - Worked up
 - Advertising
 - gas
 - Sea gulls
 - British gun
 - Portico
 - DOWN
 - Quian—?
 - Actor
 - Robert
 - Thine, in Paris
 - applied stew
 - Like ilax
 - Calls
 - David's victim
 - Vegas
 - Airs
 - Lodging of a kind
 - Soap plant
 - British brig
 - Lethal
 - Shillong is its capital
 - Californian rockfish
 - Kilmer poem
 - Blemishes
 - Will supplement
 - Alfredo
 - Compresses
 - Excels
 - Substantial
 - Switch
 - Coarse woolen cloth
 - Attention getter
 - Great attraction
 - Forehead
 - Jany
 - the singer
 - a man with...
 - Melville work
 - Zola character
 - Suit

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

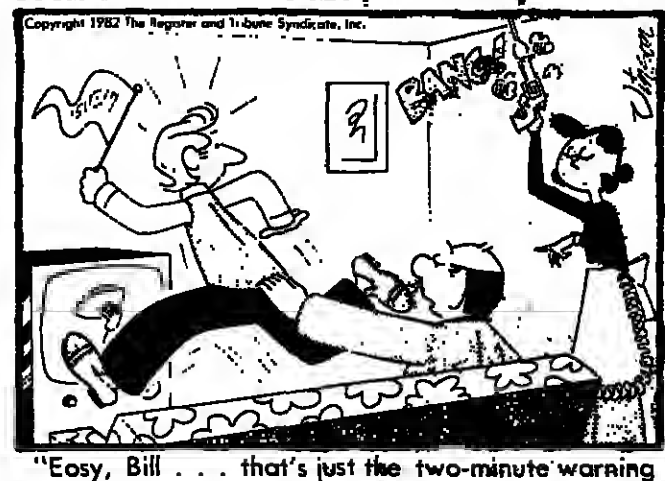
1. ASH PLATO RATE
2. ABUE OILIER EYEN
3. UNDERSTAND CEN
4. DISAPPEARS TRICE
5. BIAH NIAH
6. HARCIE TRAVELER
7. OMAR SWINE JALL
8. TONY DAILY JALL
9. ERG CANNY ISLE
10. LEONARD JONES
11. AISK LER
12. INDIAN REQUICED
13. GOAT ELLSWINTARY
14. BONE SYINGO AIDE
15. NIEAR SETINE REIS



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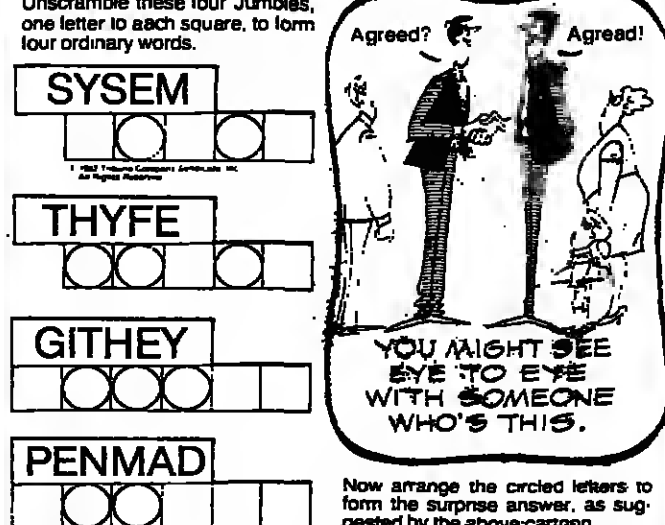
THE BETTER HALF

By Vinton



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: THE

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GROIN - SNAIL - ASSURE - EULOGY

Answer: This should only be done with a good taste - SEASONING

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, MAR. 18, 1982

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day when you can express goodwill and are able to get together and work out personal problems with others. Make a point to maintain self-control and understanding of others.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You may feel sluggish early in the day but later can make up for lost time and accomplish a great deal. Be sensible.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) New projects appeal to you but they need more study before you jump into them. New contacts yield fine benefits now.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Make sure you carry through with promises made and you gain fine benefits from them. Show more affection for loved one.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) You may not agree with the ideas of an associate, but think them over carefully for a better appraisal.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Improving your surroundings new can add to your comfort and pleasure. Take time to improve your appearance. Be logical.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Express your finest talents and gain the support of higher-ups. Don't waste time with persons who have selfish interests.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Study home conditions and clarify any problems there in a friendly fashion. Make your life as you want it to be.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Make it a point to contact persons who can give the advice you need to make greater progress in career matters.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Ideal day to handle money matters and increase your security in the future. Give more attention to close ties.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You can easily make an excellent impression on others at this time. Accept social invitations and dress in good taste.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Think over your ideas for the future and make plans to profit by them. Consult an expert for advice you need.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Good time to get together with friends and make mutual plans for the future. Take no chances with one who opposes you.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she could be easily spoiled, so teach your progeny to stand on own two feet and make the most of the talents in this chart. Would do well in the field of entertainment. Teach to set a goal and then to follow through.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, MAR. 19, 1982

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day to take no chances by neglecting routine duties. Pitch in and quietly finish whatever small tasks you have already begun. Make plans to have a more successful life.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) An early start on those duties ahead of you sees you completing them quickly and efficiently. Become more dynamic.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Take time to make yourself more charming for the busy social days ahead. Your surroundings should be improved.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Accumulated tasks at home should be completed first before starting on a new project. Strive for more harmony at home.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Get busy on work you didn't have time for earlier in the week. The weekend can be a most happy one.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Figure out details connected with a new project you have in mind. Plan a more practical budget for the future.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Analyze yourself and your possessions and decide where and how to make any needed improvements. Don't neglect good friends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You have many tasks to handle and this is the right day to get started on them. Show more thoughtfulness for loved one.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Making new and constructive plans for gaining personal aims brings good results at this time. Sidestep a foe.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A good day to become involved in civic work that could add to your prestige. Be wary of newcomers.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A new outlet that appeals to you requires more study before putting it in operation. Express happiness.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Handle unfinished tasks before the weekend begins. Avoid a person who likes to waste your valuable time.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Talks with a associates now can help bring a better understanding. Steer clear of an individual who is jealous of you.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be a wise person who can gain the best of the past in combination with the best of the new, and can be very successful in life. A person who understands the worries and needs of others. Spiritual training is a must.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

The WEEKEND CROSSWORD

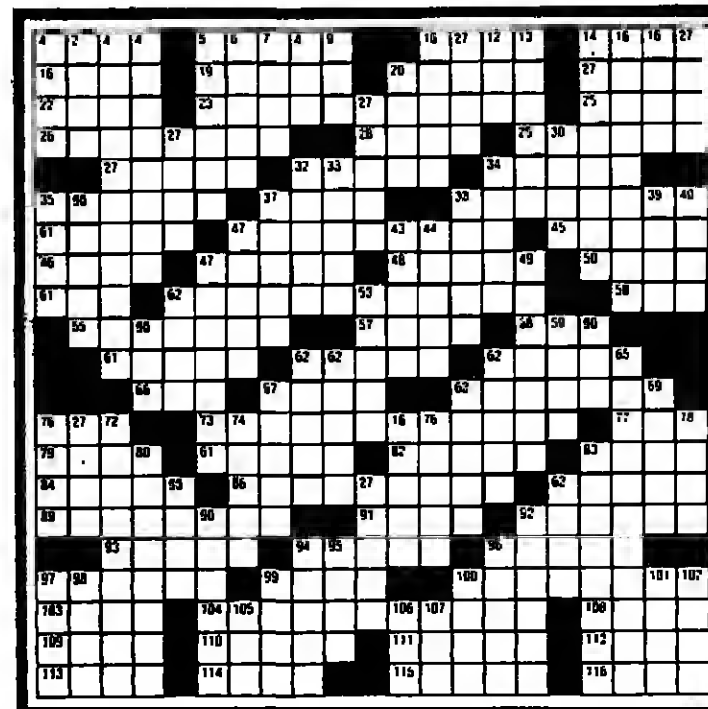
(formerly The New York Herald Tribune Crossword)
Edited by Herb Eitelson

NO PLACE TO LIVE

By Bert H. Kruse

- ACROSS**
- "Doppelgänger"
 - 35 Duplicated
 - 37 — aviv
 - 38 Erred in
 - 39 Talking
 - 41 "Nevermore"
 - 42 Texas senator
 - 43 Time period: Fr.
 - 45 French trends
 - 47 Farblinden
 - 48 Street show
 - 50 B — Boston
 - 51 Wire measure
 - 52 Film shoot
 - 54 Word of chess
 - 56 Kind of carve
 - 58 Loser
 - 59 Before prof.
 - 61 Criteria agency
 - 62 King and Aida
 - 63 Rich cake
 - 64 Altair
 - 66 Western
 - 67 Theat. Fr.
 - 68 Western
 - 70 Legal
 - 71 profession
 - 72 The press
 - 73 Storage name
 - 74 Bagdad's
 - 75 Bagdad's
 - 76 Scott
 - 77 Cupids, in art
 - 78 Rue — Paris
 - 79 Subway rider's
 - 80 Subway rider's
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 - 84 Subway rider's
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 - 116 Subway rider's

- DOWN**
- Merry old
 - 20 European
 - 21 Diamond weight
 - 22 Baker's need
 - 23 Truck event
 - 24 Western lake
 - 25 "To be — to be"
 - 26 Jazz start
 - 27 Jazz start
 - 28 Jazz start
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 - 114 Jazz start
 - 115 Jazz start
 - 116 Jazz start



Last Week's Cryptograms

- Lush fruits and flowers will well feed both your body and your soul.
- Why is it you peel pears, while you pare potatoes?
- Edgy squares squared as long as you kept brave as brave very late.
- A few people, critics of New York City, are apple knockers.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. EAMKOTZ NM FLOWER PUN NPYMNVHR

JAMB YAMZ OWJIF KLUKE PURBTA: UMF

QTAD ITRQDI — By E.I. Livingston

2. BUOY FGDWLLY WEGDI DAY FLHUNDER

OUNNUG MLR LA KEGGI MDAI KRA MLNT

BUFT WLE WUFT. — By Lois H. Jones

3. YUMRUC YEMSLYC BRAVEMSLYC VENCRLV

VENLSBA. — By Reba Dew

4. SWORPID COULTEX WINTN UP CWNTREN

ORWEGTAATUEA ORYWRDR BTXB EIGLRO

UP ORSTHTYTANA. — By E.P. Grover

SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES



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WORLD

Brigades member 'spared' Dozier

VERONA, Italy (A.P.) — A confessed Red Brigades terrorist said Wednesday he spared Brig. Gen. James L. Dozier's life when police broke in to free the kidnapped American because he couldn't bring himself to hate him.

"I had all the time I needed to shoot the general," said Giovanni Cuicci, 23. "I could not succeed in seeing him as an enemy but only as a man who was sleeping."

Mr. Cuicci testified on the fourth day of the trial of 17 alleged terrorists charged with the kidnapping Dec. 17 of the highest-ranking U.S. officer at the NATO base in Verona.

Gen. Dozier told reporters after his rescue that one of his captors was pointing a pistol at his head when police stormed the apartment in Padua where he was imprisoned in a tent.

Mr. Cuicci said he was guarding Gen. Dozier on Jan. 28 when the group's leader, Antonio Savasta,

came and told him the police were coming.

"Savasta gave me a pistol. The general was still sleeping," he said. "The general woke up when the police broke the door down. I tried to tell him with gestures to stay calm, that nothing would happen."

Mr. Cuicci said police hit him on the head with a pistol and he was arrested. He did not tell the court he had pointed the gun to Gen. Dozier's head.

Also testifying Wednesday were confessed Red Brigades members Armando Lanza, 32, Roberto Zanca, 27 and Ruggero Volina, 25, who said he drove the getaway car the night Gen. Dozier was abducted from his Verona apartment by four men posing as plumbers.

Mr. Savasta testified Tuesday that a Bulgarian embassy employee offered to help the kidnappers with money and advice.

Kerala coalition shatters

NEW DELHI (A.P.) — The 80-day-old coalition government led by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress Party in the southern Indian state of Kerala resigned Wednesday after losing its majority in the legislature through the defection of a single lawmaker.

Within hours of accepting the resignations of Chief Minister K. Karunakaran and his seven-member cabinet, Governor Jyothi Venkatchalam dissolved the state assembly. Mrs. Gandhi's government was expected to impose direct central rule again for the second time in five months.

The crisis erupted Monday when Lonappan Nambadan, a prominent member of the Christian Kerala Congress Party, loudly announced his resignation from the minority party and withdrawal of support from the united front coalition.

In a brief statement Mr. Nambadan, alleged that government policies were harming sections of the state he represented. He requested independent status in the legislature.

Mr. Nambadan's defection left the ruling coalition with only 70 seat in the 141-member state assembly.

Now, fresh elections will have to be held within six months.

Kerala, a long-time Marxist-ruled state, was thrown into similar turmoil last October when the Chief Minister E.K. Nayanar's Communist-led government was reduced to a minority by the defection of two of his coalition partners.

New Delhi quickly imposed presidential rule on the southernmost Indian state until a new government could be formed.

Mrs. Gandhi's state Congress Party subsequently patched together a precarious one-member majority coalition that survived numerous crises in the months ahead only with the house speaker—who had been chosen from the coalition's ranks—using his tie-breaking vote to carry the day.

Nicaragua on full alert

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (R) — Security forces have been placed on full alert in Nicaragua under a state of emergency imposed by the left-wing government to counter what it said was a plan by the United States to undermine it.

A 30-day national state of emergency suspending constitutional rights and guarantees was announced Monday night by the ruling civilian-military junta.

Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the junta, said the government had concluded that "the plans of aggression against Nicaragua were becoming increasingly more explicit."

The government said right-wing guerrillas who blew up two bridges on Sunday were acting under the orders of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Managua was calm with little extra police or army activity reported. But newspapers appeared to have been delayed because of censorship.

The state of emergency announcement which Commander Ortega said could be extended "depending on the circumstances" followed months of accusations by the Nicaraguan government that U.S.-supported guerrillas were operating from across the Honduran border.

Relations with Washington deteriorated rapidly after the United States accused Nicaragua of funneling Cuban aid to leftist guerrillas in neighboring El Salvador.

Pentagon plans to test satellite destroyer soon

WASHINGTON (R) — The Pentagon will test an important weapon designed to destroy Soviet satellites in the very near future, a high Pentagon official Tuesday.

Assistant Defence Secretary Robert Cooper said a two-stage missile would be launched from an F-15 jet fighter and guided to its target using information about the enemy satellite's position gleaned from U.S. surveillance satellites.

Mr. Cooper, a space warfare expert, told a Senate committee

the United States also was hard at work developing laser weapons that employ intense beams of light and might be deployed in space to knock down Soviet satellites or missiles.

A key early mission for the space shuttle will be to test a pointing and tracking device for a space-based laser weapon, allowing it to aim and shoot its beam across tens of thousands of kilometres of space, Mr. Cooper said.

Israeli policies deplored

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia and Niger deplored on Wednesday the Israeli settlement colonialism in the Middle East, a joint communique published by the official Saudi Press Agency said.

The communique, issued after a visit to the kingdom by President Seyni Kountche of Niger, said the two Muslim countries also condemned attempts by Israel to res-

ume diplomatic relations with African countries which severed them following the 1973 Middle East war.

They pledged to foster bilateral cooperation and seek success for a Muslim conference of foreign ministers due to be held in Niger in June, the communique said.

It also urged an Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab lands including Jerusalem.

Rome debates charges against former premiers

ROME (R) — The Italian parliament debated charges Tuesday against two former prime ministers and a former defence minister accused of helping an alleged secret service cover-up over a bomb massacre in 1969.

The men are Giulio Andreotti and Mariano Rumor, both Christian Democratic prime ministers and former Social Democrat Defence Minister Mario Tanassi.

Mr. Andreotti is accused of false testimony in the trial of 33 men charged with the bombing of the Milan Banca Nazionale Dell'Agricoltura in December 1969 in which 16 people died.

Mr. Rumor and Mr. Tanassi are accused of aiding and abetting a fascist wanted for the bombing who turned out to be an informer for the Italian secret service (SID).

After 13 years of judicial inquiries and trials nobody has been convicted of the bombing. All those tried were acquitted on appeal for lack of evidence. Opposition parties say there was a cover-up.

S. African troops ferry out SWAPO supplies from Angola

OSHAKATI, Namibia (R) — South African troops held an area of southwestern Angola Wednesday, ferrying out captured supplies of arms and food after a crossborder raid in which they said 201 guerrillas were killed.

The raid, launched with an airborne assault on a South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) forward supply base on Saturday, was the first incursion into Angola announced by the South African authorities since November.

A small group of journalists and officers flown to the base by helicopter were told the raid was carried out by only 45 men of the once-secret 32 battalion, a mainly black counter-insurgency commando which SWAPO has accused in the past of committing atro-

The joint session of parliament will decide if there is evidence to send the men to the constitutional court or to close the case and absolve them of the accusations.

The case is one of the most Byzantine mysteries in post-war Italy. Many believe the bombing was part of an extremist plan to precipitate a neo-fascist coup.

It was first blamed on a group of anarchists led by former nightclub-dancer Pietro Valpreda. Another suspect plunged to his death from Milan police headquarters. His interrogator was subsequently assassinated and so was the judge heading the inquiry.

Five years later, in 1973, investigators discovered links to a fascist group which itself was involved with the secret service. Milan magistrates demanded to know if a chief suspect, fascist journalist Guido Gianettini, was an informer.

It was then that the politicians are alleged to have approved secret service measures to help protect Mr. Gianettini and cover-up his work for SID.

Helicopters also joined in the attack, in which the South African forces lost three dead, two white and one black.

The officer commanding military forces in Namibia, Maj. Gen. Charles Lloyd, said food caches near the camp — which included tinned meat packed in Bulawayo — showed Zimbabwean support for SWAPO.

The South African troops who carried out Saturday's attack said they expected to hold the inhospitable mountain valley until the end of the week while about 16 tons of captured supplies — including missile launchers, rockets, automatic rifles and mines — were taken across the border by helicopter.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Air France catches fire at Sanaa

PARIS (A.P.) — Fire broke out in the right-hand engine of an Air France Airbus on its take-off run from Sanaa Airport in North Yemen Wednesday morning, spreading to the front of the cabin, the company said here. The pilot stopped the aircraft safely and the 111 passengers were quickly evacuated from the rear of the 236-seat aircraft. Air France said two people suffered very minor injuries. Members of the crew of 13 helped airport fire services to extinguish the blaze quickly, the company said. The Airbus series, of which the first aircraft went into operation more than 10 years ago, recently topped one million flying hours in 660,000 flights without any major accident or incident. The builders, the Franco-German consortium Airbus Industrie, recently delivered the 169th aircraft of the series. Air France has 20 in service which have flown more than 172,000 hours.

Cairo sentences Sadat assassins' lawyer

CAIRO (A.P.) — The military court has found a top lawyer in the assassination trial of the late President Anwar Sadat guilty of contempt of court and given him a six-month suspended sentence, security sources said Tuesday. Lawyer Abdul Haleem Ramadan was arrested earlier this month during one of the secret hearings in the Sadat assassination case and charged with insulting the court. Mr. Ramadan defended Lt. Khaled Islambouly, found guilty of killing Mr. Sadat and sentenced to death. The supreme military court dismissed Mr. Ramadan and 34 other defence lawyers March 1, appointed a new defence team and announced verdicts five days later. In a telephone interview with the Associated Press, Mr. Ramadan said he would appeal the ruling. "Anyone who sees the minutes of the hearings can see they contain no disrespect to the judge," he said. "I was only doing my job and honestly defending my client." The supreme state security council has accused Mr. Ramadan of illegally revealing secret information about the closed-door hearings. Mr. Ramadan denied this.

Syria, Iran want non-aligned summit moved

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria and Iran believe the non-aligned summit conference due to be held in Baghdad in September should be either postponed or moved to another capital, the official Syrian News Agency SANA said Wednesday. It quoted remarks by Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam at a press conference in Tehran on Tuesday, he and Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati agreed that "objective circumstances will not permit holding this conference in Baghdad." SANA said, "We favour moving it or putting it off until circumstances are more favourable," he added.

Marcos to start Saudi visit March 21

MANILA (A.P.) — President Ferdinand E. Marcos will make a three-day state visit to Saudi Arabia starting March 21 in the first ever visit to the Middle East by a Philippine head of state, the presidential palace announced Wednesday. Saudi Arabia is one of the Islamic countries mediating the Muslim problem on the southern Philippine island of Mindanao, where the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) is fighting for self-rule. It is also the Philippines' principal source of crude oil, supplying this country with 40,000 barrels daily. The announcement said Mr. Marcos' visit is expected to include talks with King Khaled, Crown Prince Fahd and ministers of the kingdom.



TO HIS MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN BIN TALAL AND THE PEOPLE OF JORDAN

JACOBS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

congratulates Your Majesty upon the completion of the Potash Project at Ghor Al Safi. Jacobs International Limited was honoured by the ARAB POTASH COMPANY LIMITED with the appointment as Consultants and Construction Managers for this project.

The support provided us by Your Majesty and your representatives was a main factor in our being able to deliver this project within budget and on schedule.